CHESS CHAMPIONS

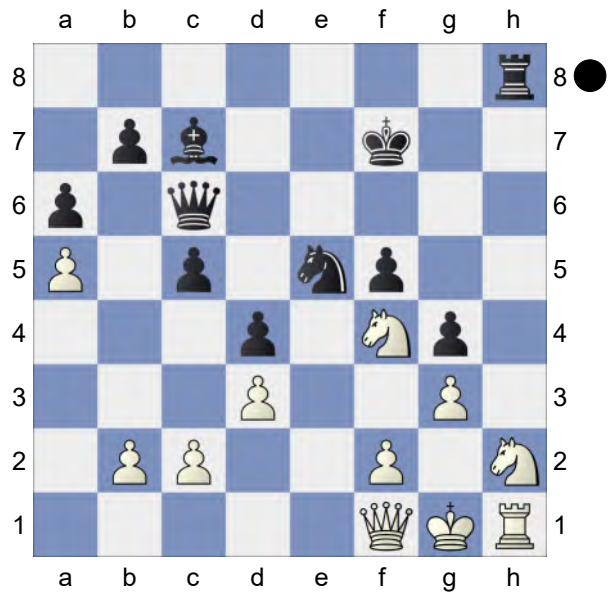
Chess Notes 2025

C55

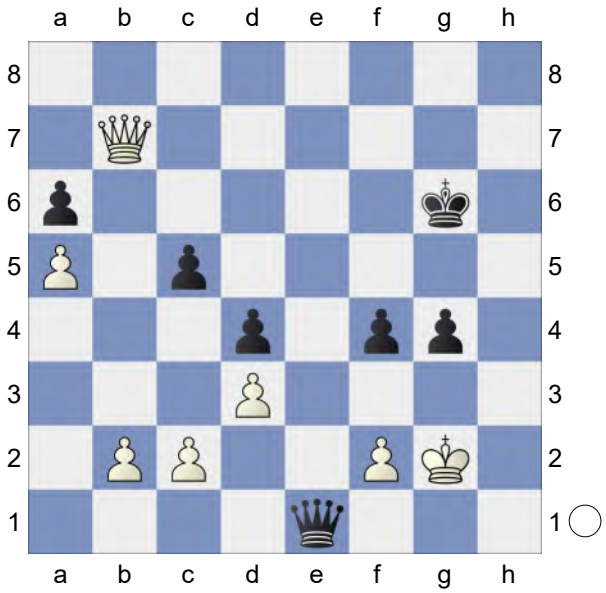
□ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**
■ **So,W** **2747**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (1.1) 17.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

C55: Two Knights: 4 d3, 4 d4 exd4 5 e5 and Max Lange Attack
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Be7
[4...d5 5.exd5 Nxd5 6.0-0 Nb6 7.Bb5 Bd6 8.d4 e4 9.Re1 f5 10.Bg5 Qd7 11.c4 0-0 12.c5 exf3 13.cxb6 Qf7 14.Bxc6 bxc6 15.Qxf3 axb6 16.Nc3 f4 17.Qxc6 Bd7 18.Qd5 Qxd5 19.Nxd5 1-0 (41) Rojas Keim,L (2680)-Vasquez Bonifacio,L (2738) Metz op 28th 2010 (5.5)]
[4...Bc5 5.Nc3 h6 6.h3 d6 7.Na4 Bb6 8.a3 Ne7 9.Nxb6 axb6 10.Ba2 Ng6 11.0-0 0-0 12.Re1 Be6 13.Bb1 Re8 14.d4 c6 15.c3 Qc7 16.Be3 Rad8 17.a4 d5 18.Nxe5 Nxe5 19.dxe5 1-0 (38) Quist,J (2427)-14.♘e4 ♖b8 15.c4 ♖e8 20 (2165) 55/47 London 1992 (4)]
5.0-0 0-0 6.Nbd2N
[6.Nc3 d6 7.a3 Bg4 8.h3 Bxf3 9.Qxf3 Nd4 10.Qd1 c6 11.f4 exf4 12.Rxf4 d5 13.exd5 cxd5 14.Ba2 Bc5 15.Kh1 Re8 16.Rf1 Ne6 17.g4 d4 18.Na4 Be7 19.g5 Nd7 20.Rxf7 Bd6 ½-½ (56) Edighoffer,H-Melton,R APCT King ch-1 1996]
6...d5 7.exd5 Nxd5 8.Re1 f6 White is slightly better. **9.a4 Kh8 10.h3** Prevents Bg4 **10...Bf5 11.Nh4** -0.33/20
[11.a5= 0.21/19]
11...Be6∓ 12.Nf1 Qd7 13.Ng3 Rad8 14.Bd2 a6 15.a5 g6 -0.15/22
[15...Bb4∓ -0.54/21]
16.Nf3= Rfe8 17.Ne4 -0.72/17
[17.c3= 0.04/19 keeps the balance.]
17...Bg8 0.04/21
[17...g5∓ -0.72/17]
18.Qc1 -0.56/18
[18.c3= 0.04/21]
18...Ndb4 0.22/21
[18...g5!∓ -0.56/18]
19.Bxg8 -0.42/20
[Better is 19.b3!= 0.22/21]
19...Kxg8∓ 20.Be3 f5 21.Nc5 Qd5 22.Na4 Bf6
[22...Qxa5? 23.Nc3 Nxd3 24.cxd3+-]
23.Nc3! Qd6 24.Ra4 Nd4 25.Bxd4 exd4 26.Ne2 c5 27.Qd2 Re7 28.Raa1 Rde8 29.Rad1 Nc6 30.Ng3 -1.11/23
[30.Kf1∓ -0.52/19]
30...Qc7 -0.53/20
[30...Ne5∓ -1.11/23 And now ...Nxf3+ would win. 31.Nxe5 Bxe5]
31.Rxe7 Rxe7 32.Ra1 Kg7 33.Ne2 Re8 34.Nf4 Qd6 35.g3 -0.53/21
[35.c4!= -0.16/22 should be considered.]
35...Bd8 36.h4 h6! 37.Kg2? -2.21/19
[37.Re1∓ -0.66/19 Bxa5 *(37...Rxe1+ 38.Qxe1 Kf7 39.Qa1=)* 38.c3]
37...g5!-+ 38.hxg5 hxg5 39.Ne2 -2.73/22
[⌓39.Nh5+ -1.99/17 Kg6 40.Rh1]
39...g4 40.Nh2 -3.47/20
[40.Nh4 -1.98/16 is the only way for White. Kf7 41.Rh1]
40...Rh8 aiming for ...Ne5. **41.Nf4?** -4.91/18
[41.f3 -2.63/18 might work better. Ne5 42.Qf4]
41...Ne5 42.Qe2 Bc7 ...Qc6+ would now be deadly. **43.Rh1 Qc6+ 44.Kg1 Kf7** Hoping for ...Qh6! **45.Qf1**

(Diagram)



Rxh2? -1.00/18 **46.Rxh2∓ Nf3+**
[46...Bxa5?! 47.Rh7+ Kg8 48.Qe2 Nf3+ *(48...Kxh7? 49.Qxe5 Kg8 50.Qxf5+-)* 49.Kf1 Nd2+ *(49...Kxh7 50.Qe7+ Kh6 51.b4=)* 50.Kg1 Kxh7 *(50...Nf3+ 51.Kf1=)* 51.Qe7+ Kg8 52.Ne6 *(52.Qg5+? Kf7-+)* 52...Nf3+ 53.Kf1 Nh2+ 54.Kg1 Nf3+ 55.Kf1 Nd2+ 56.Kg1 Nf3+=]
47.Kh1 Bxf4 48.gxf4 Nxh2+
[48...c4 with more complications. 49.Qd1 cxd3 50.cxd3 Kg7]
49.Kxh2 Endgame. KQ-KQ **49...Qf3**
50.Qg2? -5.32/34
[50.Qe1∓ -0.90/22]
50...Qxf4+-+ 51.Kg1 Qc1+ 52.Kh2 Qh6+
[52...Qxc2 53.Qxb7+ Kf6 54.Qxa6+ Kg5 55.Kg2=]
[52...Qxb2 53.Qd5+ Kf6 54.Qd8+ Kf7 55.Qc8=]
53.Kg1 Qc1+ 54.Kh2 Qf4+? 0.00/29
[54...Qxc2 55.Qxb7+ Ke6 56.Qxa6+ Ke5 57.Kg2=]
[54...Qxb2 55.Qd5+ Kf6 56.Qd8+ Ke6 57.Qc8+ Kf6 58.Qxc5=]
[54...Kg6-+ -5.17/25 55.Qxb7 Qf1 56.Qxa6+ *(56.Qg2? Qxg2+ 57.Kxg2 Kg5-+)* 56...Kg5]
55.Kg1!= Qc7 56.Qh1 Kg6
Against Qh7+
[56...Qxa5 57.Qxb7+ Kg6 58.Qc6+ Kg5 59.Kg2]
57.Qh8 Qf7 58.Qe5 Qf8 59.Qc7 Qe8 60.Qxb7 Qe1+ 61.Kg2 f4 1.01/25
[61...Qxa5= 0.00/28 62.b3 Kf6]



62.Qd5 0.00/26
[62.Qxa6+ Kg5 63.Qa8 f3+]
[White should try 62.Qd7!± 1.01/25 g3 *(62...Qxa5 63.Qxg4+ Kf6 64.Qxf4+ Ke6 65.Qe4+ Kd6 66.Qg6+ Kd7 67.Qf7+ Kd6 68.Qf6+ Kc7 69.Qe5+ Kc6 70.Qe6+ Kc7 71.Qd5+-; 62...f3+ 63.Kg3±)* 63.Qg4+ Kh7 64.fxg3 *(64.Qxf4 gxf2 65.Qf7+ Kh6±)*]
62...f3+
[62...Qxa5? 63.Qe6+ Kg5 64.Qe5+ Kh4 65.Qf6+ *(65.Qxf4 Qb6±)* 65...Kh5 66.Qxf4±]
63.Kg3 Black must now prevent Qe4+.
63...Qg1+ 64.Kf4 Qxf2 0.63/26
[64...Qc1+= 0.00/26 65.Kg3 *(65.Kxg4 Qg1+ 66.Kf4 Qh2+ 67.Ke4 Qh4+ 68.Ke5 Qf6+ 69.Ke4*

Qh4+ 70.Ke5 Qf6+ 71.Ke4 Qh4+=) 65...Qg1+ 66.Kf4 Qc1+ 67.Kxg4 Qg1+ 68.Kf4 *(68.Kxf3? Qh1+* Skewer *69.Ke2 Qxd5-+)* 68...Qh2+ 69.Ke4 Qh4+ 70.Ke5 Qf6+ 71.Ke4 Qh4+ 72.Ke5 Qf6+ 73.Ke4 Qh4+]

65.Qf5+

[65.Qxc5 Qh2+ 66.Kxg4 Qg2+ 67.Kh4 *(67.Kf4? f2-+)* 67...f2 68.Qd6+ Kf7 69.Qd7+ Kg8 70.Qe8+ Kg7 71.Qd7+ Kh6 72.Qd6+ Kh7 73.Qd7+ Kg6 74.Qe6+ Kg7 75.Qe7+ Kh8 76.Qf8+ Kh7 77.Qf7+ Kh6 78.Qf8+ Kh7 79.Qf7+ Kh8 80.Qe8+ Qg8 81.Qe5+ Qg7 82.Qe8+ Kh7 83.Qe4+ Kg8 84.Qe8+ Qf8 85.Qg6+ Kh8 86.Qh5+ Kg8 87.Qg6+ Kh8 88.Qh5+ Kg7 89.Qg4+ Kf6 90.Qf4+ *(90.Qxd4+ Kg6=)* 90...Ke7 91.Qe4+ *(91.Qxd4? Qf6+ 92.Qxf6+ Kxf6-+)* 91...Kd7 92.Qd5+ *(92.Qxd4+ Kc8=)* 92...Kc7 93.Qc4+ Kd7 94.Qxd4+ *(94.Qxa6? f1Q-+)* 94...Kc8 95.Qc4+ Kd7 96.Qd5+ *(96.Qxa6? Qf4+ 97.Kh5 f1Q-+)* 96...Ke7 97.Qc5+ Ke8 98.Qc6+ Kf7 99.Qc4+ *(99.Qxa6? Qd8+ 100.Kg3 f1Q-+)* 99...Kg6 100.Qg4+ *(100.Qxa6+? Kg7-+)* 100...Kf7 101.Qf5+ Kg7 102.Qg4+ Kf7 103.Qf4+ Ke8 104.Qb8+ Ke7 105.Qb7+ Kf6 106.Qf3+ *(106.Qxa6+? Kg7-+)* 106...Kg7 107.Qg4+ Kh7 108.Qd7+ Kg8 109.Qg4+ Kf7=]

65...Kg7 66.Qxg4+

[Much worse is 66.Kxg4 Qg2+ *(66...Qxc2 67.Kxf3 Qd2 68.Qe5+ Kg6 69.Qd6+ Kf7 70.Qc7+ Ke6 71.Qc6+ Kf7 72.Qxa6=)* 67.Kh4 Qh2+ 68.Kg4 Qg2+ *(68...Qxc2 69.Qxf3 Qxb2 70.Kf5=)* 69.Kh4 Qf2+ 70.Kh3 Qf1+ *(70...Qxc2 71.Qg4+ Kf6 72.Qxf3+ Ke5 73.Qg3+ Kd5 74.Qf3+ Ke5 75.Qe4+ Kd6 76.Qg6+ Kd7 77.Qxa6=)* 71.Kh4 Qf2+ 72.Kh3 Qg2+ *(72...Qxc2 73.Qg4+ Kf6 74.Qxf3+ Ke5 75.Qg3+ Kd5 76.b3=)* 73.Kh4=]

66...Kf7? 5.31/22

[66...Kf6± 1.15/20]

67.Qxf3+- Qxc2 68.Ke5+ Kg7 69.Qf6+ Kh7 70.Qxa6 Qxb2 71.Qc4? 0.12/18

[71.Qa7++- 5.35/20 Kh8 72.Qxc5 Qe2+ 73.Kxd4 Qf2+ 74.Kc4 Qc2+ 75.Kb4 Qb1+ 76.Kc3 *(76.Kc4 Qc2+ 77.Kb4 Qb1+ 78.Kc3 Qc1+ 79.Kd4 Qf4+ 80.Kd5 Qf7+ 81.Ke4 Qg6+ 82.Kd4 Qg4+ 83.Kc3 Qd1+-)*]

71...Qc3? #4/18

[71...Qb8+= 0.12/18 72.Kd5 Qa8+ 73.Kxc5 Qxa5+ 74.Kxd4 Qb6+ 75.Ke5 Qb8+ 76.Ke4 Qe8+ 77.Kd4 Kg6]

72.Qf7+ Kh6 White used his chance.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.40/ Black=0.31

1-0

E20

□ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**

■ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**

CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (1.1) 17.12.24

[Kitty Kat]

E20: Nimzo-Indian: 4 g3 and 4 f3

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 d5 5.a3 Be7 6.e4 dxc4

[6...dxe4 7.fxe4 c5 8.d5 exd5 9.exd5 0-0 10.Be2 Re8 11.Nf3 Bg4 12.0-0 Nbd7 13.d6 Bf8 14.h3 Bh5 15.Nb5 Re6 16.Bf4 a6 17.Nc7 Re4 18.Bh2 Rc8 19.g4 Bxg4 20.hxg4 Nxg4 21.Bd3 1-0 (34) Caruana,F

(2842)-Alekseenko,K (2698) Candidates Tournament 2020 (2)]

7.Be3 b5 8.Nxb5 Ba6 White has an edge. **9.Nc3N** -0.15/19

[9.Bxc4 c6 10.e5 cxb5∓ *(10...Bxb5 11.exf6 Bxf6 12.Qd3∓)*]

[9.Qa4!± 0.36/23 c6 10.Nc3]

[9.a4 c6 10.Na3 Bxa3 11.Rxa3 Nbd7 12.Ne2 Rb8 13.Ra2 0-0 14.Nc3 Qa5 15.Be2 Rfd8 16.Qc2 c5 17.0-0 cxd4 18.Bxd4 Nc5 19.Nb5 Rxd4 20.Nxd4 Nb3 21.Nb5 Bxb5 22.axb5 Qxa2 23.Bxc4 Na1 0-1 (42) Pires,A (2705)-Larand,M (2677) (open) 43/610 1987 24.Qc3 Qa4 25.b3 Nxb3 26.Qxb3 Qxb3 27.Bxb3 Rxb5 28.Rc1 g5 29.Rc3 Kg7 30.Kf2 h5 31.Ke3 h4 32.g3 h3 33.Bd1 Rb2 34.Be2 g4 35.fxg4 Nxe4 36.Ra3 Ng5 37.Rxa7 Rb3+ 38.Kd4 Rb1 (42) 5. Converting an Advantage Wh-Radoslaw Wojtaszek Vs Andrey,T 39.Ke3 Rh1 40.Ra5 Kf6 41.Bf3 Rxh2 42.Ra1 Rb2 0-1 Wojtaszek,R (2705)-Esipenko,A (2677) 147/172 Wijk aan Zee 2021]

9...0-0= Black wants to play ...c5!

10.Nh3 -0.84/19

[10.Qa4= -0.04/22]

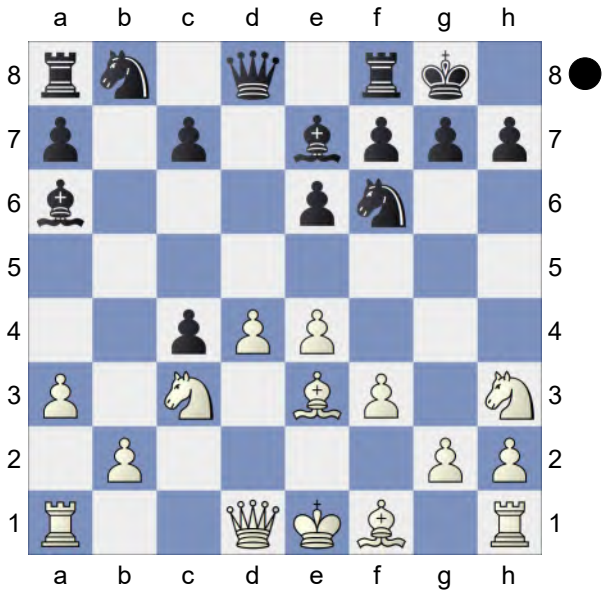
(Diagram)

10...c5!∓ 11.dxc5

[11.d5 exd5]

11...Qc7 12.Qc2 Bxc5 13.Bxc5 Qxc5 14.Qf2 Qa5 15.Be2 Nc6 ...Rab8 would now be deadly. **16.0-0 Rab8 17.Rab1 Rfd8 18.Rfd1** Dodges Rd2 **18...Rxd1+ 19.Nxd1 h6 20.Bf1 Nd7 21.Rc1 Nb6** -0.63/19

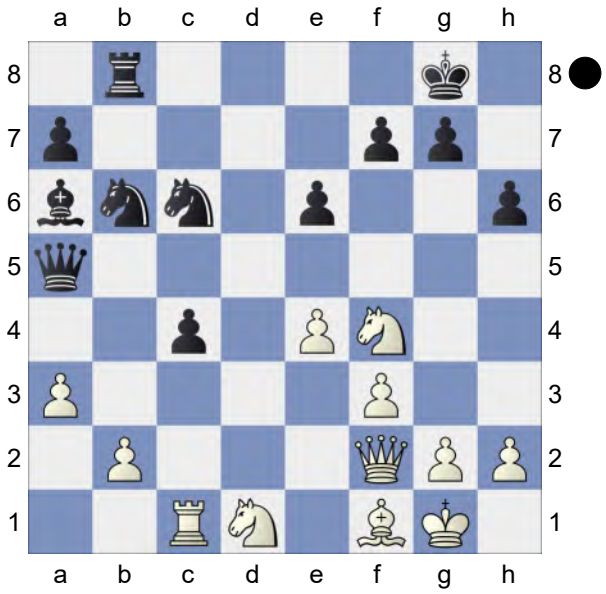
[21...Nc5∓ -1.60/22 Hoping for ...Nb3. 22.Bxc4 Ne5 23.Bxa6 Ncd3



(23...Nxa6 24.Qe2±) 24.Bxd3 *(24.Qxa7? Qe1#)* 24...Nxd3]

22.Nf4 -1.56/21

[22.Qe3∓ -0.63/19]

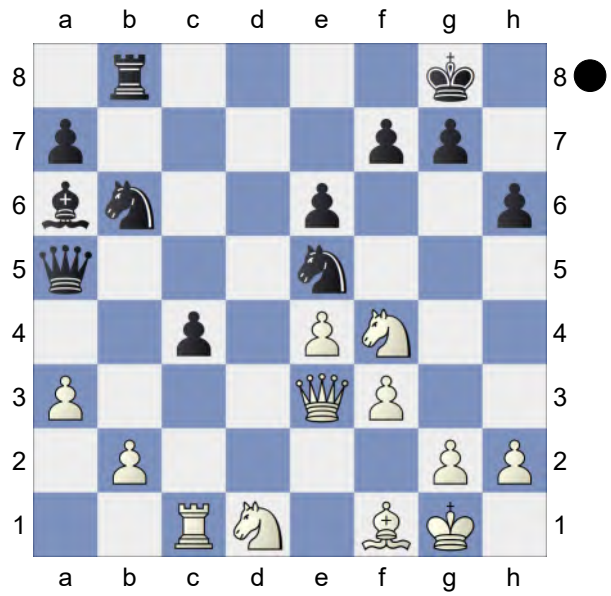


22...Ne5 -0.98/19

[⌓22...Na4! -1.56/21 Strongly threatening ...Qe5. 23.b4 cxb3 24.Rxc6 Bxf1 25.Qxf1 Rd8 *(25...b2 26.Nxb2 Nxb2 27.h4∓)*]

23.Qe3

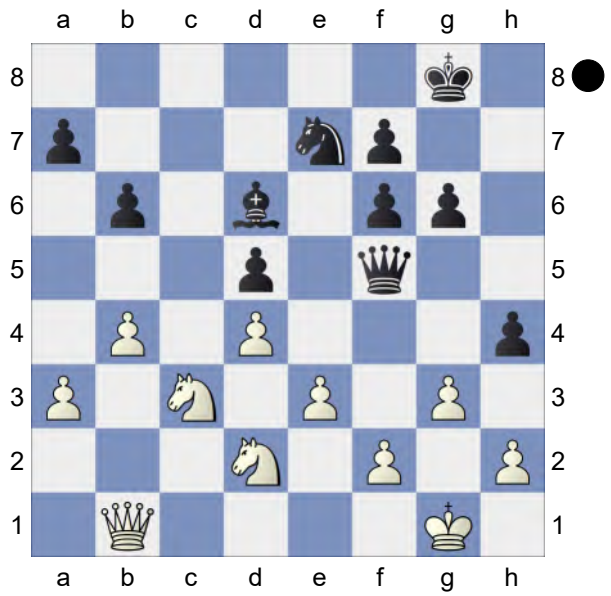
(Diagram)



Rd8 -0.73/20
[⌓23...Na4! -1.27/20 24.Rb1 c3 25.Qxa7 c2 *(25...Rb6? 26.Qc7-+)*]
24.Nc3 -1.09/21
[White should try 24.Nh3 -0.73/20]
24...Nd3 25.Rd1 Qg5 -0.19/19
[Black should play 25...Na4∓ -0.73/23 26.Nxa4 Qxa4]
26.h4!= Qxh4
[26...Qxf4? perishes. 27.Qxf4 Nxf4 28.Rxd8+ Kh7 29.a4+-]
27.Nxd3 cxd3 28.Bxd3 Bxd3
The position is equal. **29.Rxd3 Rxd3 30.Qxd3** KQN-KQN **30...Qe1+ 31.Kh2 Qh4+ 32.Kg1 Qe1+**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) /Black=0.17 (very precise)
½-½

A06
□ **Carlsen,M** **2831**
■ **Keymer,Vincent** **2733**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (1.1) 17.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

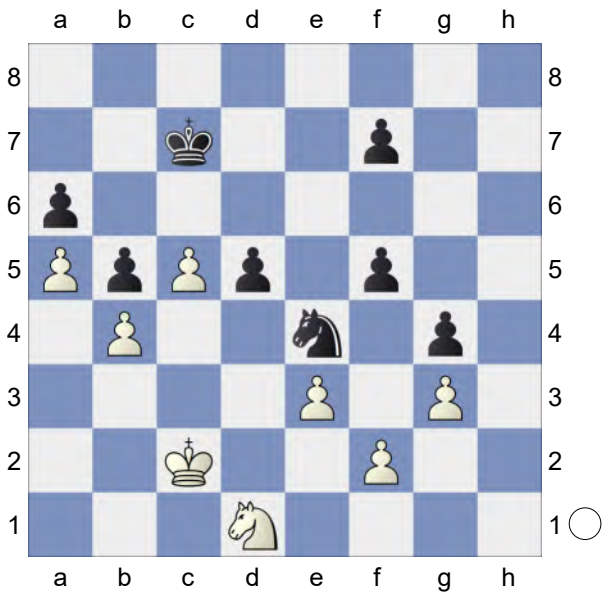
A06: Réti Opening: 1 Nf3 d5
The part played by White's backward c2-pawn in this game seems incredible, although it never quite made it to the queening square. **1.Nf3 d5 2.e3 Nf6 3.b3 c5 4.Bb2 g6 5.Bb5+ Bd7 6.Bxf6 exf6 7.Bxd7+ Qxd7 8.c3N** -0.56/22
[8.d4= -0.03/21 Bg7 9.Nc3 f5 10.Qd2 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Nc6 12.0-0 0-0 13.Nde2 1.Nf3 d5 2.e3 c5: The Reverse-Fianchetto Reversed G6]
[8.0-0 Bg7 9.d4 f5 10.Nc3 0-0 11.Ne2 cxd4 12.Nfxd4 Qd6 13.Rc1 Rd8 14.Qd2 Nd7 15.Rfd1 Nf6 16.Qa5 a6 17.c4 dxc4 18.bxc4 Rac8 19.c5 Qe5 20.Qb6 Ng4 21.h3 Qh2+ 22.Kf1 Qh1+ ½-½ (37) Vangilder,J (2596)-8.Lg2 (2577) Juteborg 1982 (9) 23.Ng1 Nh2+ 24.Ke2 Bxd4 25.Qxb7 Rb8 26.c6 Qxg2 27.Rxd4 Rdc8 28.Qd7 Rb2+ 29.Rd2 Rxd2+ 30.Kxd2 Qxf2+ 31.Kd3 Rf8 32.c7 Nf1 33.Kc3 Qxe3+ 34.Kb2 Qb6+ 35.Ka1 Qf6+ 36.Kb1 Qb6+ 37.Ka1 ½-½ Speelman, J (2596)-Sermek,D (2577) EuTCh Leon ESP 2001 (9)]
8...Nc6 9.d4 cxd4 10.cxd4 -0.52/25
[10.Nxd4= -0.06/25 should be considered. Rc8 11.Ne2]
10...Bb4+∓ 11.Nfd2 Rc8 12.0-0 0-0 13.a3 Bd6 14.Nc3 Ne7 15.Ne2 Rc6 16.b4 Rfc8 17.Rc1 Rxc1 18.Nxc1 Qc7 19.g3 -0.71/23
[19.h3!= -0.27/20 is superior.]
19...Qc2 0.09/26
[19...h5∓ -0.71/23]
20.Ncb3 -0.31/25
[20.Qxc2!= 0.09/26 Rxc2 21.Ncb3]
20...Qd3 21.Qb1 Qa6 22.Qb2 b6 23.Rc1 Rxc1+ 24.Nxc1 h5 25.Qb3 Qc8 26.Ne2 h4 27.Nc3 Qf5 28.Qb1
[28.e4!? Qg5 29.Nf1±]



Threatens to win with Qxf5. **28...Qg4** White should prevent ...hxg3. **29.Kg2 hxg3 30.hxg3 Kg7**
[30...g5 with more complications. 31.e4 Kg7 32.Qd3 dxe4 33.Qxe4 f5]
31.Qd1 Qxd1 32.Nxd1= Endgame. KBN-KNN **32...f5 33.Nc3 Kf6 34.Nf3 g5 35.Kf1 g4 36.Ne1 Ke6 37.Nd3 Ng8 38.Ke2 Nf6 39.Kd2 Ne4+ 40.Kc2 Nf6 41.a4 Ne4 42.Kb3 Nd2+ 43.Kb2 Ne4 44.Kc2 a6 45.Ne2 Kd7 46.Nec1 Kc6 47.Nb3 Kc7 48.Nbc1 Kc6 49.Na2 Kd7 50.Nc3 Ke6 51.a5 b5** 0.39/32
[51...bxa5= 0.00/28 52.bxa5 Bc7]
52.Nd1 Kd7 53.Nc5+ Bxc5 54.dxc5 KN-KN **54...Kc7?** 2.37/39
[54...f6= 0.08/41 and Black has nothing to worry.]

(Diagram)

A mistake that costs the game. **55.Kd3!+- Kc6 56.Kd4 f6 57.Nc3 Nxc3** 10.18/22
[57...Nd2 2.01/32 58.Ne2 *(58.Nxd5? loses. Nf3+ Deflection 59.Kc3 Kxd5-+)* 58...Nf3+ 59.Kd3 Ng5 60.Nd4+ Kd7]
58.Kxc3 KP-KP. White is clearly winning. **58...Kc7 59.Kd3 Kd7 60.Ke2 Kc7 61.f3 Kd7 62.fxg4 fxg4 63.Kd3 f5 64.Kd4 Ke6 65.c6**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.19 (very precise)
1-0



B90
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
■ **Aronian,L** **2747**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (1.1) 17.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

B90: Sicilian Najdorf: Unusual White 6th moves, 6 Be3 Ng4 and 6 Be3 e5
Wolff,P: 'Inf 43/311' **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bd3 e5N**
[6...Nc6 7.Nxc6 bxc6 8.0-0 e5 9.f4 Be7 10.fxe5 dxe5 11.h3 0-0 12.Be3 Qa5 13.Kh1 Be6 14.a3 Nd7 15.Qe2 Nf6 16.b4 Qc7 17.Na4 g6 18.Rf3 Nh5 19.Bc4 Nf4 20.Qf1 h5

21.Bxe6 ½-½ (46) Wolff,P (2380)-Fedorowicz,J (2535) (open) 43/311 1987]

[6...e6 7.0-0 *(7.f4 Qc7 8.Qe2 Nbd7 9.Nf3 g6 10.0-0 Bg7 11.f5 0-0 12.Kh1 b5 13.a3 Bb7 14.fxe6 fxe6 15.Bf4 Nc5 16.Rae1 Nh5 17.Bd2 Nf4 18.Bxf4 Rxf4 19.Qe3 Raf8 20.Ne2 R4f6 21.Ned4 e5* 0-1 (53) Mertens,M-Krzyzanowski,A EU/EM/M/009 2004 *22.Ne2 Na4 23.b3 Nc5 24.Nd2 Rxf1+ 25.Rxf1 Rxf1+ 26.Nxf1 Qf7 27.Nfg3 Nxd3 28.Qxd3 d5 29.exd5 Bxd5 30.Nc3 Bb7 31.h3 Bf8 32.a4 b4 33.Nce4 Qe7 34.Nf1 Qe6 35.Nfd2 Qc6 36.Qg3 Bh6* 0-1 (53) Mertens,M (2498)-Krzyzanowski,A corr EU/EM/M/009 2004 *)* 7...b5 8.a3 Bb7 9.f4 Nbd7 10.Kh1 Nc5 *(10...g6 11.Qe2 Bg7 12.Be3 0-0 13.Rad1 Re8 14.Bg1 e5 15.fxe5 Nxe5 16.Rfe1 Qc7 17.Nf3 d5 18.Nxe5 Rxe5 19.Bd4 Re6 20.e5 Nd7 21.Qf3 Nxe5 22.Qg3 Rae8 23.Re2 Qc6 24.h3 Nc4 25.Rxe6* ½-½ (51) Costa,L (2343)-Jarocka,L (2225) Munich Pfingst op-A 1st 2023 (7)*)* 11.Qe2 Be7 12.b4 Nxd3 13.cxd3 Rc8 14.Bd2 0-0 15.Rac1 Qd7 16.f5 e5 17.Nf3 Rfd8 18.Rfe1 Rc7 19.h3 Rdc8 20.Qf2 h6 21.Kg1 0-1 (23) Campora,D (2521)-Marin,M (2557) Olympiad-34 Istanbul 2000 (6.1)]

7.Nde2 Be7 8.0-0 Be6 9.f4 exf4 10.Nxf4 Nc6 White is slightly better.

11.Be3 Ne5 12.a4 0-0 13.Qe1 -0.15/22

[⌓13.Bd4 0.30/21]

13...Rc8 0.27/21

[⌓13...Nfg4 -0.15/22]

14.a5 Nfd7 15.Ncd5 Bg5 16.Bd4 Nc5 17.Qg3 Bh4 18.Qe3 Bg5 19.Qe2 Bh6 20.b4 Ncd7 0.55/18

[20...Bxf4= 0.10/22 21.Nxf4 Ncxd3 22.cxd3 Bd7]

21.h3 Re8 22.Rf2 Nc6

[22...Bxf4 simplifies 23.Nxf4 f6 24.Nxe6 Rxe6 25.Qd1 Nxd3 26.cxd3 Ne5]

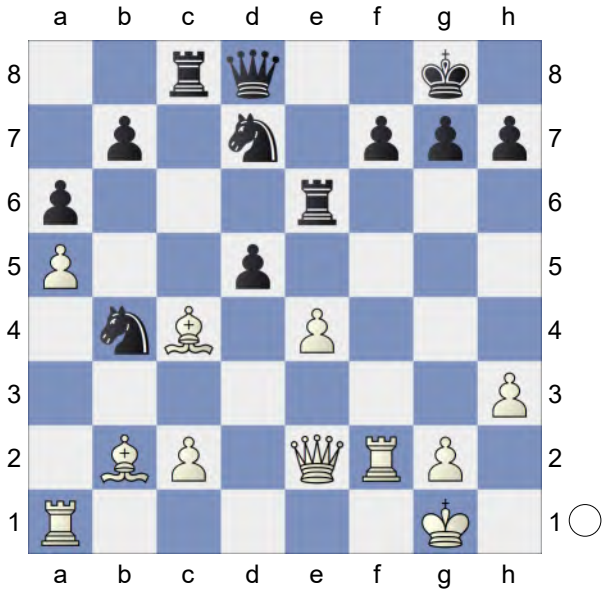
23.Bb2 Bxf4

[23...Nce5 feels hotter. 24.Raf1 Bxf4 25.Nxf4 f6]

24.Nxf4 Nxb4 25.Nxe6 Rxe6 1.61/21

[25...fxe6= 0.22/23 and Black stays safe. 26.Raf1 Nxd3 *(26...Qxa5 27.Bxg7 Ne5 28.Bf6+-)* 27.Qxd3 Ne5 *(27...Qxa5? 28.Rf7+-)* 28.Bxe5 dxe5]

26.Bc4+- d5



27.Qf3→ 1.02/18 White attacks with force.

[27.Bb3!+- 1.86/20]

27...Nf6? 2.77/20

[27...Ne5± 1.02/18 28.Bxe5 Rxe5]

28.exd5 Rd6 29.Bb3 Black must now prevent Qg3. **29...Nbxd5 30.Rd1 Ne7 31.Rxd6 Qxd6 32.Qxb7 Rb8** 2.30/18

[⌓32...h6 1.77/20 33.Rf1 Kh7]

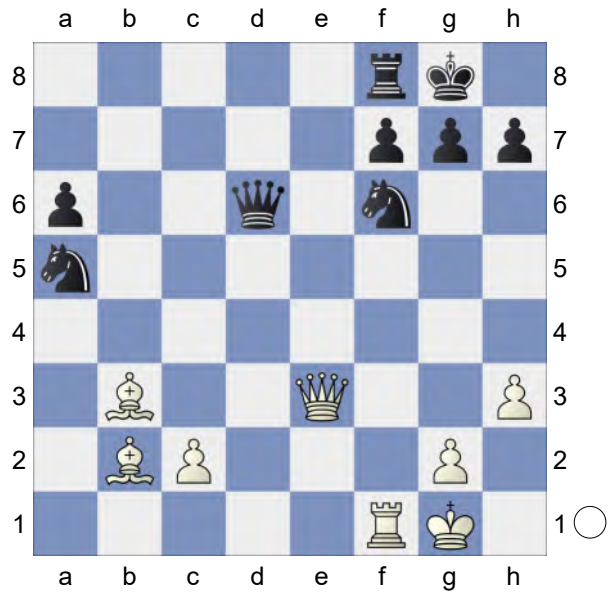
33.Qa7 Re8 34.Rf1 Rf8 35.Qb6 Nc6 36.Qe3? 0.93/19

[36.Qxa6+- 3.65/21 and White stays

clearly on top. Hoping for Bxf6. Qc5+ 37.Kh1]

36...Nxa5? 3.18/19

[36...Re8± 0.93/19 37.Qb6 Re7]



37.Ba3! A strong pair of Bishops.

37...Re8? 5.74/20

[37...Qxa3? is the wrong capture. 38.Bxf7+ Rxf7 39.Qxa3+-]

[37...Qd8 3.20/18 38.Bxf8 Qxf8]

[37...Qb8 38.Bxf8]

38.Qxe8+ Decoy. White is clearly winning.

[Not 38.Bxd6 Rxe3 39.Ba2 Re2=]

38...Nxe8 39.Bxf7+ Kh8 40.Bxd6 Nxd6 41.Bd5

Weighted Error Value: White=0.27 (precise) /Black=0.53

1-0

A20

□ **So,W** **2747**

■ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**

CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (1.2) 17.12.24

[Kitty Kat]

A20: English Opening: 1...e5

1.c4 e5 2.g3 c6 3.d4 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 Bxd2+ 5.Qxd2 d6 6.Nc3 Nf6 7.e4 0-0 8.Bg2 b5

[8...a6 9.Nf3 Bg4 10.0-0 Bxf3 11.Bxf3 Nbd7 12.Rfd1 b5 13.cxb5 axb5 14.a3 Qb6 15.b4 exd4 16.Qxd4 Qxd4 17.Rxd4 Ne5 18.Be2 c5 19.Rdd1 cxb4 20.axb4 Rxa1 21.Rxa1 Nc6 22.Nxb5 d5 23.Rc1 1-0 (46) Molaei,M (2640)-2. ♘c3 ♘c6 3.g3 g6 4. ♗g2 (2645) (open) 57/341 1993 (10)]

9.cxb5 cxb5 10.Nge2N

[10.Nxb5 Qb6 11.a4 a6 12.Na3 Nc6 13.Ne2 Na5 Keres Variation-N, N]

[10.d5 b4 11.Nd1 Na6 12.f3 Nc5 13.Nh3 Qa5 14.Qe3 Ba6 Ionescu,C (2415)-Lupulescu,C (2614) 154/(13) Romania 2022]

10...b4 11.Nd5 Nxd5 12.exd5 Hoping for dxe5. **12...exd4 13.0-0**

[13.Qxb4? loses. Re8 14.Kd2 *(14.Qxd4? Ba6-+)* 14...Qf6-+]

13...Ba6 14.Rfe1 Bxe2 15.Rxe2 a5 16.Qxd4 Nd7 17.Rae1 Rc8 18.h4 h6 -0.04/20

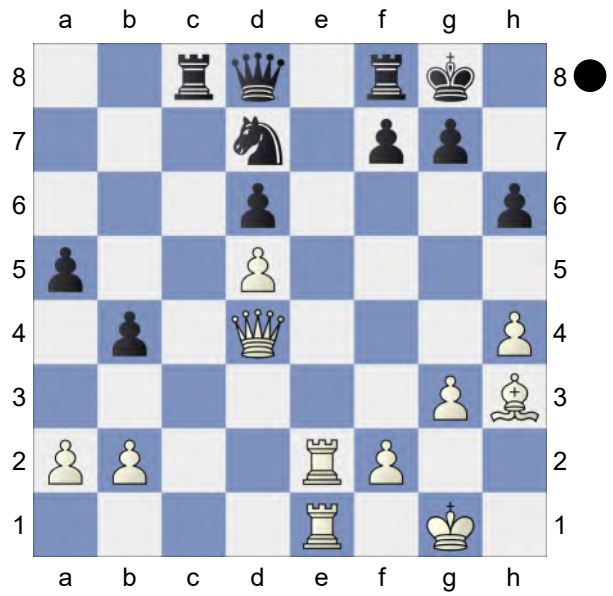
[18...Ne5∓ -0.40/21]

19.Bh3=

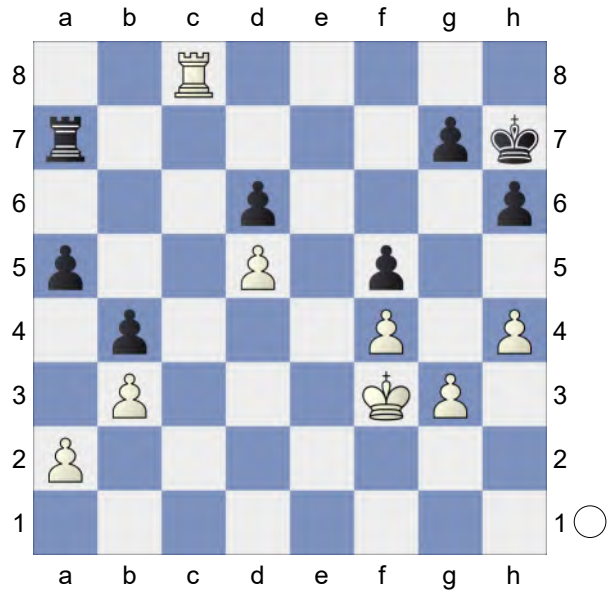
(Diagram)

Ne5! 20.Kg2 Repels Nf3 **20...Rc4 21.Qd2 Rc5 22.b3 Qa8 23.Rd1 Rc3** 0.03/20

[23...h5!∓ -0.42/19 was preferrable.]



24.Re3 Rxe3 25.Qxe3 Re8 26.Qb6 Qd8 27.Qxd8 Rxd8 Endgame. KRB-KRN **28.f4 Nd7 29.Bxd7 Rxd7** KR-KR **30.Rc1** Prevents Rc7 **30...Ra7** 0.77/26
[30...Kh7= 0.28/25 should be considered.]
31.Rc8+± Kh7 32.Kf3 White is more active. **32...f5** 1.87/22
[Better is 32...a4± 0.57/24]



33.h5? 0.07/21
[33.Ke3!+- 1.87/22]
33...a4= 34.Rc4 axb3 35.axb3 Ke3! would now be deadly. **35...Ra5 36.Rd4** 0.04/29
[36.Ke3!± 0.60/26]
36...g6 The position is equal. **37.Rxb4** Black must now prevent Rb7+. **37...gxh5 38.Rd4 Kg6 39.Rd3 Rb5 40.Ke3 h4 41.gxh4 Kh5 42.Kd4 Kxh4 43.Kc4** Prevents Rb4+ **43...Rc5+ 44.Kd4 Rb5 45.Kc4 Rc5+ 46.Kd4**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.11 (very precise)
½-½

E60
□ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**
■ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (1.2) 17.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

E61: King's Indian: Early deviations for White, including Smyslov System
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.e3 0-0 5.Be2
[5.b3 c5 6.Bb2 Ne4 7.Nbd2 Qa5 8.Bd3 d5 9.0-0 Bf5 10.Bxe4 dxe4 11.Nh4 cxd4 12.Nxf5 gxf5 13.exd4 Nc6 14.b4 Qb6 15.Rb1 Nxd4 16.Nb3 e5 17.Nc5 Qc6 18.Qa4 Qg6 19.Kh1 b6 0-1 (33) Parameswaran,T (2365)-Watson,W (2450) BCF-ch Brighton 1984 (2)]
5...c5 6.d5N
[6.0-0 cxd4 7.Nxd4 Nc6 8.Nc3 d5 *(8...Qb6 9.Nb3 d6 10.e4 Ne5 11.Be3 Qc6 12.Nd4 Qc7 13.Nd5 Nxd5 14.cxd5 Nc4 15.Qc1 Nxe3 16.Qxc7 Nxf1 17.Nf3 Nxh2 18.Kxh2 Bxb2 19.Rd1 Bf6 20.Nd4 h5 21.f3 Kg7 22.g3 Rh8 23.Kg2* 0-1 (68) Grigoriev,N (1821)-Verbel,J (2289) Warsaw (rapid) 2007 (1) *h4 24.gxh4 Rxh4 25.Kf2 Rh8 26.f4 Rh4 27.Ke3*

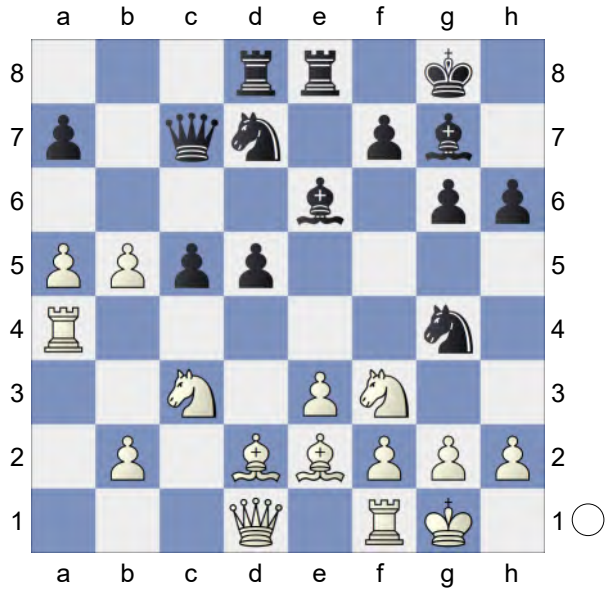
Rh3+ 28.Nf3 Bg4 29.Rd3 Rc8 30.Qxb7 Rc2 31.Qb3 Rb2 32.Qa3 Bxf3 33.Bxf3 Rhh2 34.Qxa7 Rxa2 35.Ra3 Rad2 36.Rd3 Ra2 37.Ra3 Rad2 38.Rd3 0-1 (68) Ac,M (2215)-Meissner,H (2270) Cappelle op 06th 1990 (8) *)* 9.cxd5 Nxd5 10.Nxd5 Qxd5 11.Bf3 Qc5 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.Qa4 Rb8 14.Rb1 Bf5 15.e4 Be6 16.Be3 Qb5 17.Qxa7 Ra8 18.Qxe7 Bxa2 19.Rbc1 Bc4 20.Rfd1 Bxb2 ½-½ (88) Comp Genius-Cherevatenko, R 80/(298) Nederland 2000 (9)]

6...d6 7.Nc3 e6 8.Nd2 b5 9.dxe6
[9.cxb5 Nxd5 10.Nxd5 exd5=]

9...Bxe6 10.cxb5 The position is equal.

10...d5 11.0-0 Nbd7 12.Nf3 h6 Prevents Ng5. **13.a4 Qc7 14.a5 Rad8 15.Ra4** -0.09/24
[15.Qa4± 0.32/20 is more appropriate.]

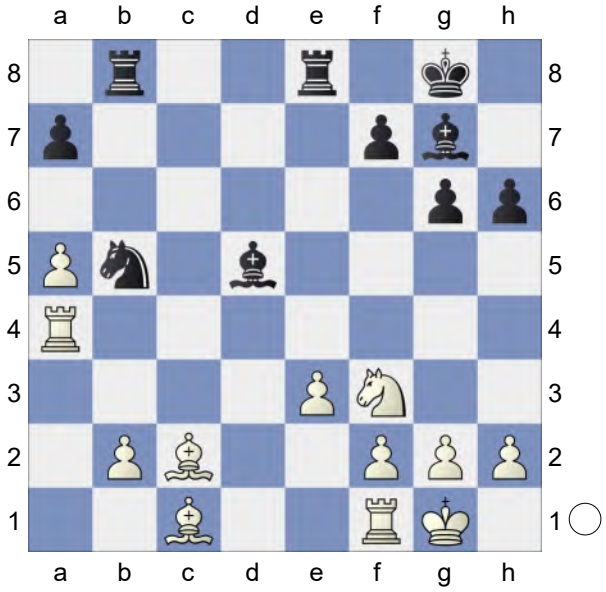
15...Rfe8 16.Bd2 Ng4 0.88/20
[16...Ne5!= -0.14/21]



17.Nxd5!± D e f l e c t i o n **17...Bxd5 18.Rxg4 Nf6** 1.58/21
[⌓18...Ne5 0.81/22 19.Ra4 Nxf3+ 20.gxf3 Be5]

19.Ra4 Ne4 20.Qc2 c4 21.Bxc4 Nd6 22.Bb3 Qxc2 23.Bxc2 Nxb5 24.Bc1 0.92/22
[⌓24.e4! 1.45/22 Ba8 25.Be3]

24...Rb8 1.63/22
[24...Re7± 0.92/22 was necessary.]



25.Rd1 0.94/26
[25.e4!+- 1.63/22 Rbc8 26.Bb1]

25...Be6 26.Ra1 Rec8 27.Bd3 Bb3 28.Re1 Rd8 29.Bxb5 0.79/17
[⌓29.Bf1 1.51/20]

29...Rxb5 30.Nd4 Rb7 1.45/25
[⌓30...Bxd4 0.79/24 31.exd4 Rxd4]

31.a6 Rb6 32.Bd2 aiming for Ba5.

32...Rd7 1.47/24
[⌓32...Rdd6 1.07/26 33.Bc3 Bd5]

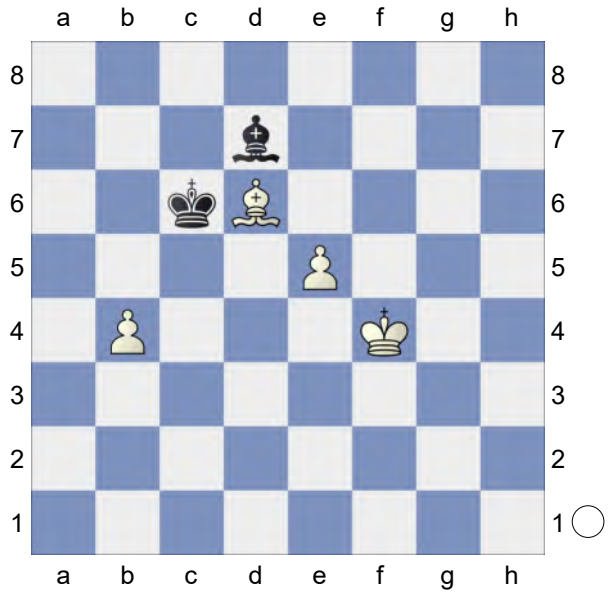
33.Bc3 Bc4 34.Ra4 Bd3 35.Rea1 Rdd6 36.h3 Bf8 37.Nf3 1.14/26
[37.Ra5+- 1.82/22]

37...Rxa6 38.Rxa6 Rxa6 39.Rxa6 Bxa6 Endgame. KBB-KBN **40.Bd4 Bb7** 1.60/21
[⌓40...h5 1.16/25 41.Bxa7 f6]

41.Bxa7 f6 42.Bd4 Kf7 43.Nd2 Ke6 44.f3 f5 45.Kf2 Bd5 1.38/22
[⌓45...h5 1.02/20 46.g4 hxg4]

46.Nb1 Bb4 47.Nc3 Bxc3 3.45/33

[47...Bc4± 1.48/17 keeps fighting. 48.Ne2 h5]
48.Bxc3 KB-KB
[Not 48.bxc3 Kf7 49.Be5 Ke6+-]
48...g5? 6.06/22
[48...h5 3.04/23 49.Kg3 Bc4]
49.g4+- fxg4 50.hxg4 Kf7 51.e4 Bb3 52.Ke3 Kg6 53.f4 gxf4+ 54.Kxf4 Kf7 55.Bb4 Be6 56.Bc5 Bc8 57.b4 Bd7 58.Be3 Kf6 59.Bd4+ Kf7 60.Bc3 Kg6 61.Bd2 Kf7 7.27/22
[⌓61...Kg7 4.42/24 62.Be3 Kg6]
62.g5? 0.09/18
[White must play 62.Ke5+- 7.27/22 Bxg4 63.Kd6 *(63.Bxh6 Ke7+-)*]
62...hxg5+= 63.Kxg5 Ke6 64.Kf4 Kd6 65.Ke3 Bb5 66.Kd4 Bf1 67.Bf4+ Kc6 68.Ke5 Bd3! 69.Bd2 Bc2 70.Kf4 Bb1 71.Ke3 Bc2 72.Kd4 Bb1 73.Bc3 Bc2 74.e5 Bf5 75.Ke3 Threatens to win with Kf4. **75...Kd5 76.Kf4 Bd7 77.Bd2 Kd4 78.Be1 Kd5 79.Bf2 Kc4 80.Bc5** And now Kg5 would win. **80...Kd5 81.Bd6 Kc6?** 13.48/32
[81...Ke6= 0.07/38]



White now steadily converts the win.
82.Kg5!+- Be6 83.Kf6 Bc4 84.Ke7 Kd5 85.e6? 0.00/29
[White should try 85.Kf6+- 7.85/28]
85...Kc6? 23.52/22
[85...Bf1= 0.00/29]
86.Bc5 Bb3 87.Kf6 Bc4 88.e7 Kd7 89.Ke5 10.57/23
[⌓89.Bf2 21.25/28 Ke8 90.Bh4]
89...Bf1 90.Kf6 White wants to mate with Kf7. **90...Bc4 91.Bf2 Ke8 92.Bh4 Kd7 93.Ke5 Bf7 94.b5 Be8 95.Kd5** 10.83/19
[⌓95.b6 27.19/22 Bf7 96.Kf6 *(96.b7 Kc7=)*]
95...Kc7 96.Kc5 Bg3+ would now be deadly. **96...Kb7 97.b6** #36/24
[97.Bg5+- 24.96/23 Bd7 98.Be3]
97...Kc8 98.Kd6 Ba4 99.Ke6 White threatens Kf7 and mate. **99...Kb7 100.Bf2**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.35
1-0

E25
□ **Keymer,Vincent** **2733**
■ **Carlsen,M** **2831**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (1.2) 17.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

E25: Nimzo-Indian: Sämisch: 5...c5 6 f3 d5 7 cxd5
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 d5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 c5 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.dxc5 Qa5 9.e4 Nc7 10.Be3 Black is weak on the dark squares
10...0-0 11.Kf2 Nc6N
[11...e5 12.Rb1 Qxa3 13.Ne2 Nba6 14.Qc1 Qa5 15.c6 Nc5 16.Ng3 N7e6 17.Nf5 bxc6 18.Ra1 Qd8 19.Qa3 g6 20.Nh6+ Kh8 21.h4 Nd7 22.h5 Nf6 23.g4 Kg7 24.Bc4 Nf4 25.Rad1 Qc7 26.Nxf7 ½-½ (50)

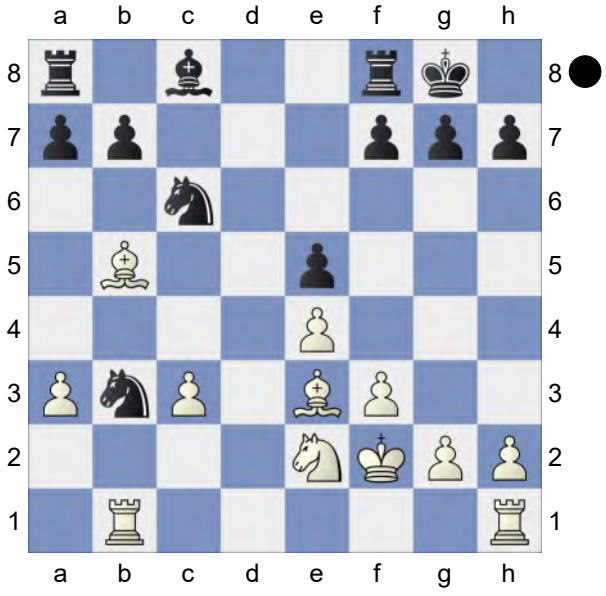
Volkov,S (2629)-Gyimesi,Z (2602) Gibraltar Masters 2006 (6) Be6 27.Bxf4 Nxg4+ 28.Ke1 Qxf7 29.Bxe6 Qxe6 30.Rd6 Qf7 31.hxg6 hxg6 32.Bg3 Qxf3 33.Rd7+ Rf7 34.Rxf7+ Qxf7 35.Qd6 Re8 36.Rf1 Qe6 37.Qc7+ Re7 38.Qb8 Nf6 39.Bh4 Rf7 40.Bxf6+ Rxf6 41.Qc7+ ;-; (50) 5.00 b5 6. ♗b3 ♗c5 7.c3 d6 (2629)-Eyabrev (2602) W-ch M corr ICCF corr 1989 (6)]

[11...Nca6 12.a4 Nxc5 13.Qd6 b6 14.Bb5 Ba6 15.Ne2 Bxb5 16.Bxc5 bxc5 17.Qxc5 Nd7 18.axb5 Nxc5 19.Rxa5 Nd3+ 20.Kg3 f5 21.exf5 exf5 22.Nf4 Nxf4 23.Kxf4 Rac8 24.Rxa7 Rc4+ 25.Kg3 f4+ 26.Kg4 1-0 (32) Caruana,F (2796)-Aronian,L (2729) Zagreb Superbet Rapid 2024 (4)]

12.Qb3 White is slightly better. **12...e5 13.Bc4 Ne6 14.Ne2** 0.18/19

[14.a4± 0.62/24]

14...Nxc5= 15.Qb5 Qxb5 16.Bxb5 A strong pair of Bishops. **16...Nb3 17.Rab1**

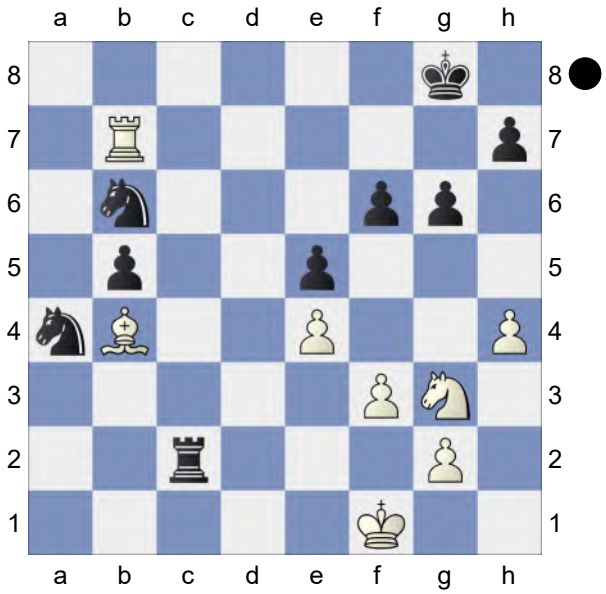


Hoping for Bxc6! **17...Be6 18.Rhd1 Rfd8 19.Rxd8+ Rxd8 20.c4** Bxc6! is the strong threat. **20...Nca5 21.Bxa7 Nd2 22.Rb4 Ra8 23.Be3 Ndxc4 24.a4 Rc8 25.Bc1 f6 26.Rb1 Nd6 27.Bd3 Bc4 28.Bxc4+ Rxc4 29.Ba3 Nc8 30.Rb4 Rc2 31.Rb5 Nc4 32.Bb4 b6 33.Rd5 Nb2! 34.Kf1 Nxa4 35.Ng3 g6** Prevents Nf5. **36.Rd7 b5** White must now prevent ...Rb2. **37.Rb7** -0.65/24

[37.Rd5= -0.23/23 was preferrable.]

37...Ncb6∓ 38.h4 -1.22/22

[White should try 38.Ne2∓ -0.68/23]



38...Nc4!∓ 39.Kg1 -1.85/21

[39.Ne2∓ -1.18/21]

39...Ne3-+ 40.Kh1 Nxg2 -0.12/25

[But not 40...Rxg2 41.Nf1 *(41.Rb8+ Kf7=)* 41...Re2 *(41...Nxf1? perishes. 42.Kxg2 Ne3+ 43.Kf2+-)* 42.Nxe3 *(42.Rb8+ Kf7=)* 42...Rxe3 43.Kg2=]

[40...Nb2∓ -1.46/24 Strongly threatening ...Nd3. 41.Rxb5 Nd3 *(41...Nxg2 42.Rb8+ Kf7 43.Rb7+ Kg8 44.Rb8+ Kf7 45.Rb7+ Ke8 46.Re7+ Kd8 47.Rxh7∓)* 42.Rb8+ Kf7 43.Rb7+ Ke8 44.Rb8+ Kd7]

41.Rb8+= The position is equal. **41...Kf7 42.Rb7+ Kg8 43.Rb8+ Kf7 44.Rb7+**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.10 (very precise)
½-½

C65

□ **Aronian,L** **2747**
■ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (1.2) 17.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

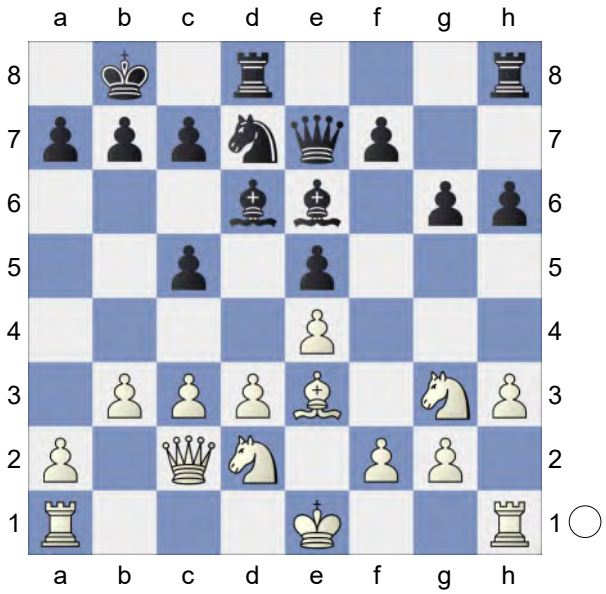
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5
CC HeaderStart CC Section C - Sacrifices for damage CC HeaderEnd CC We move on to an even more exciting part of this chapter: the sacrifices that AlphaZero makes to expose the opponent's king. Game: 'Wizard chess' From a sedate anti-Berlin opening, AlphaZero spots a stunning way to inject danger into the position with a double pawn sacrifice: 14... f5 and 16... e3. The result is a sudden attack that delivers at least perpetual. AlphaZero tries for more, but Stockfish holds firm. Game themes: 1. Sacrificing material to free space for attacking pieces 2. Sacrificing material to damage the opponent's king's position
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.c3
[6.Nxe5? is the wrong capture. Qd4 7.Qe2 Qxe5-+]
[6.Nbd2 Nd7 7.Nc4 f6 8.Bd2 Nf8 9.b4 Be7 10.Nh4 g6 11.0-0 Ne6 12.g3 0-0 13.Ng2 b6 14.Kh1 c5 15.a3 Bb7 16.Bh6 Rf7 17.c3 Qd7 18.Qe2 Rd8 19.Rad1 cxb4 20.axb4 c5 ½-½ (66) Firouzja,A (2703)-Ding,L (2836) Lindores Abbey Prelim rapid 2020 (2)]
[6.h3 Be6 7.Nc3 Nd7 8.Ng5 Nf8 9.Qf3 Qe7 10.Nxe6 Nxe6 11.Be3 0-0-0 12.Qf5 Bd4 13.Bd2 Kb8 14.0-0-0 h5 15.h4 Bxc3 16.Bxc3 f6 17.g3 c5 18.f4 Nd4 19.Bxd4 cxd4 20.Rdf1 Qf7 ;-; (37) 7.d5 ♘h5 8. ♕d2 ♕h4_5915 (2456)-6. ♘c3 ♘c6 7. ♗b5 ♘e7_5 (2199) ESP-chT CECLUB Honor 2020 (7)]
6...Bd6 7.h3N
[7.0-0 Be6 8.b3 h6 9.Nbd2 Nd7 10.Nc4 0-0 11.Re1 Re8 12.d4 Bxc4 13.bxc4 c5 14.d5 f5 15.exf5 e4 16.Nd2 e3 17.fxe3 Qh4 18.g3 Bxg3 19.hxg3 Qxg3+ 20.Kh1 Re5 21.Re2 Rxf5 (31) 11. Sacrifices for Time,S-Wizard Chess Stockfish Vs 22.Rg2 Qh3+ 23.Rh2 Qxe3 24.Ba3 Re8 25.Qg4 Rf7 26.Qh4 Ree7 27.Rg1 Ne5 28.Rg3 Qe1+ 29.Rg1 Qe3 30.Rg3 Qe1+ 31.Rg1 Qe3 Part Iii Themes In Alphazero-Stockfish Vs Alphazero]
7...h6 8.Be3 Be6 9.Nbd2 Qe7 10.Nf1 -0.49/22
[Better is 10.d4= 0.15/19 Nd7 11.0-0]
10...0-0-0∓ 11.Ng3 Kb8 12.Qc2 c5 -0.26/18
[12...Nd7∓ -0.76/18]
13.Nd2 g6 14.b3 -0.81/18
[14.Nc4∓ -0.45/20 is more appropriate.]
14...Nd7∓

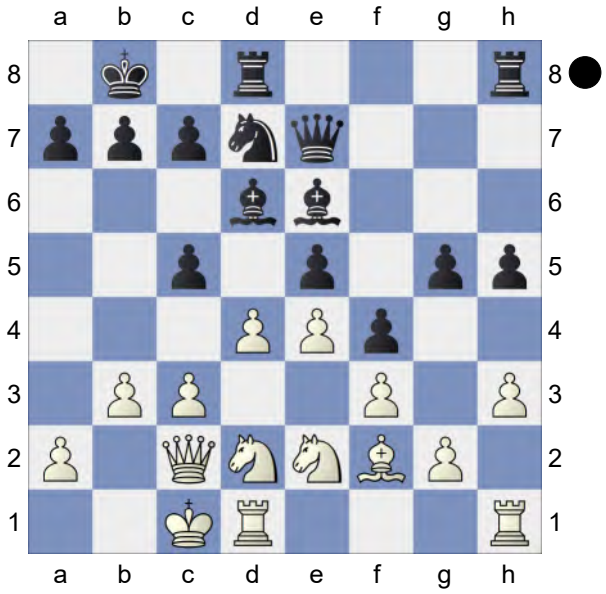
(Diagram)

...f5 is the strong threat. **15.Ne2 f5** And now ...f4 would win. **16.f3 f4 17.Bf2 g5 18.0-0-0 h5 19.d4**

(Diagram)

cxd4 -0.17/17





[19...c6!∓ -0.84/21]

20.cxd4= exd4 21.Nxd4 The position is equal. **21...Ne5 22.Kb1 Bc8 23.Nf5 Qe6 24.Bd4 b6 25.Nc4 Nxc4 26.Qxc4 Qxc4 27.bxc4 Rhf8 28.Nxd6 Rxd6 29.c5 Rc6 30.cxb6 axb6 31.Rc1 Rxc1+ 32.Rxc1** Endgame. KRB-KRB **32...Kb7 33.Be5 Rf7 34.Kb2 Be6 35.a3 Rd7 36.Kc3 c5 37.Rc2 Kc6 38.Rd2 b5 39.Rxd7 Kxd7** KB-KB **40.Kd2 Bc4 41.Ke1 Ke6 42.Bc3 h4 43.Ba5 Kf7 44.Kf2 b4 45.axb4 cxb4 46.Bxb4 Kg6 47.Be7 Bb5 48.Ke1 Bc4 49.Bd8 Bb5 50.e5 Bc4 51.Kf2 Kf5 52.Bf6 Bd5 53.Be7 Bc4 54.Ke1 Bd5**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)

½-½

		B90
□	**Vachier Lagrave,M**	**2731**
■	**Aronian,L**	**2747**

CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (2.1) 17.12.24

[Kitty Kat]

B90: Sicilian Najdorf: Unusual White 6th moves, 6 Be3 Ng4 and 6 Be3 e5

My opponent played Pirc/Modern exclusively, which made the preparation process relatively easier. I noticed Mareco Sandro used an interesting idea against my opponent in round two, and I did not see any harm in repeating the same if I got the opportunity. **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.h3 g6 7.g4N**

[7.Be3 Nc6 8.Qd2 Bg7 9.0-0-0

A) 9...0-0 10.g4 *(10.f3 d5 11.exd5 Nxd5 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.Bd4 Bxd4 14.Qxd4 Qc7 15.Bc4 e5 16.Qd2 Be6 17.Bxd5 Rad8 18.Bxe6 Rxd2 19.Rxd2 fxe6 20.Rhd1* 3) Najdorf: 6.h3 g6-7...Bg7 8.Qd2 Nc6 #2 Lifetime Repertoires: Giri's 1. e4 - 2023*)* 10...Bd7 11.Be2 Rc8 12.g5 Ne8 13.h4 Nc7 14.Nb3 b5 15.Bb6 Qe8 16.f4 Na8 17.Be3 Nb4 18.Bd4 Bxd4 19.Qxd4 Nc6 20.Qg1 Be6 21.h5 f5 22.hxg6 Qxg6 23.Rh6 1-0 Ganguly,S (2609)-Almeida Quintana,O (2536) Capablanca Memorial Elite 55th 2022 (4);

B) 9...Bd7 10.g4 Rc8 11.f3 0-0 12.h4 h5 13.gxh5 Nxh5 14.Rg1 Qa5 15.Rg5 b5 16.a3 Nxd4 17.Bxd4 e5 18.Be3 Be6 19.Qxd6 Rxc3 20.bxc3 Qxc3 21.Bd3 Re8 (23) Chapter-Systems With Dxc4 f) 3...Nf6 4.Bg2 dxc4 5.Qa4+ c6 w 9. Rc8 2018]

7...h6 8.Bg2 Bg7 9.0-0 0.49/21
[9.Be3± 1.06/18]

9...0-0 10.Be3 Nc6 11.Qd2 0.29/24
[11.Nde2± 0.65/19 is more appropriate.]

11...h5= 12.g5 Nd7 13.f4 -0.10/22 Inhibits Nde5.
[13.Rad1± 0.35/22 should be considered.]

13...Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Bxd4+ 0.45/16
[14...e5= 0.03/20 15.fxe5 Bxe5]

15.Qxd4± b5 16.e5 dxe5 17.fxe5 Rb8 18.Rad1 Qc7 1.42/19 Prevents Bc6.
[18...Qb6= 0.14/21]

19.Nd5!± White is much more active.

19...Qxe5 20.Qxe5 0.74/18
[White should play 20.Qf2! 1.51/24]

20...Nxe5 21.Nxe7+ Kg7 22.Rfe1 Nc4 23.b3 Na3 24.c3↑ White has some pressure. Black is weak on the dark squares **24...Be6 25.Nc6 Rb6** 1.02/19
[25...Rbe8= 0.18/19]

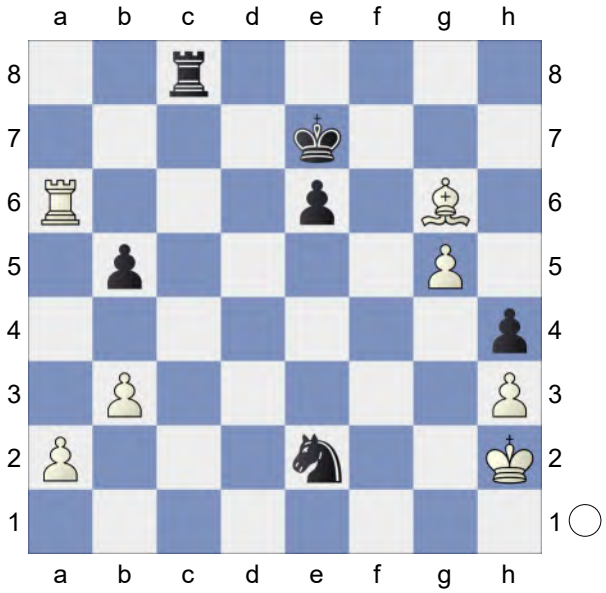
26.Nd4! aiming for Nxe6+. **26...Rc8** 1.56/24
[⌓26...h4 1.03/21]

27.Nxe6+ Rxe6 28.Rxe6 fxe6 Endgame. KRB-KRN **29.Rd7+ Kf8 30.Rd6 Ke7** 1.98/29
[30...a5± 1.31/21]

31.Rxa6+- Nb1 32.Be4? 0.00/24
[White has to play 32.Rc6!± 1.53/20 Rxc6 Remove Defender 33.Bxc6]

32...Nxc3= 33.Bxg6 Ne2+! 34.Kh2
[34.Kf2!? Nf4□ 35.Ra7+ Kd6 36.Bf7=]

34...h4 1.54/22
[34...Nf4!= -0.04/21 35.Be4 Rc3]



35.Be4? 0.00/19
[35.Ra7+!± 1.54/22 Kf8 36.Bh7]

35...Ng3 0.90/20
[35...Nf4!= 0.00/19 keeps the balance.]

36.Bd3 0.53/20 White leaves nothing to chance now.
[White should try 36.Ra7+± 0.90/20 Kd6 37.Bh7]

36...Rc3 1.08/22
[36...Rc5!± 0.53/20]

(Diagram)

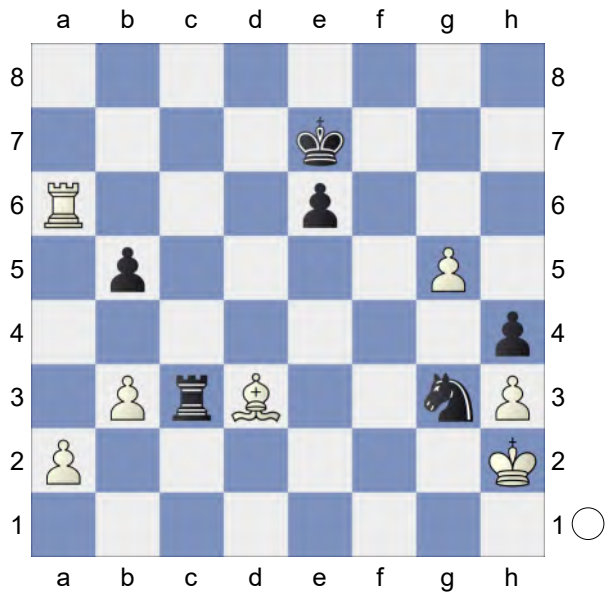
37.Bxb5 0.57/19
[37.Ra7+!± 1.08/22 Kd6 38.Bxb5]

37...Rc2+ 1.56/19
[37...Ne4!± 0.57/19]

38.Kg1± Hoping for Bc4. **38...Rc5** 3.78/21
[38...Ne4 1.83/18]

39.Bc4+- Rxg5 40.Rxe6+
[40.Bxe6 Ne4+ 41.Bg4 Nf6=]

40...Kd7 41.Kf2 Nh1+ 42.Kf1 Ng3+



43.Ke1 Rf5 44.Rh6 Black must now prevent Be6+. **44...Rf4 45.a4** White is clearly winning. **45...Ne4 46.a5 Nd6 47.Be2 Rb4 48.a6** Threatens to win with a7. **48...Rxb3 49.a7 Ra3 50.Rh8**

[Less strong is 50.Rxh4 Kc7±]

50...Ra1+ 51.Kf2

Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.48

1-0

A13

□ **Firouzja,Alireza 2763**

■ **So,W 2747**

CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (2.1) 17.12.24

[Kitty Kat]

A13: English Opening: 1...e6

1.Nf3 d5 2.c4 e6 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 d4 5.0-0 Nc6 6.e3

[6.d3 e5 7.a3 a5 8.Bg5 Be7 9.Nbd2 Nd7 10.Bxe7 Qxe7 11.Ne1 0-0 12.Nc2 a4 13.b4 axb3 14.Nxb3 Na5 15.Nxa5 Rxa5 16.Qd2 Ra4 17.Rab1 Nc5 18.Rb4 Ra6 19.e3 dxe3 20.fxe3 h5 ½-½ (27) Ortiz Suarez,I (2503)-Msellek,I (2405) CAN Transnational op 2023 (6)]

6...e5N

[6...Bc5 7.b4 Bxb4 8.exd4 0-0 9.Bb2 Rb8 10.Na3 *(10.Qe2 Re8 11.d3 b5 12.Nc3* Chapter-Qa5*)* 10...Bxa3 11.Bxa3 Re8 12.Bb2 b5 13.Bc3 bxc4 14.Qa4 Bd7 15.Qxc4 Nd5 16.Rfb1 Rb6 17.a4 Qb8 18.Re1 a5 19.Qc5 Nxc3 20.dxc3 Rb2 21.Ng5 ½-½ (44) Caruana,F (2805)-Hammer,J (2677) Stavanger 125/3 2015 Qb6 22.Ne4 Ne7 23.Qg5 Ng6 24.h4 h6 25.Qg4 Bc6 26.h5 Bxe4 27.Bxe4 Ne7 28.Qf3 Rd8 29.Rab1 Nd5 30.Rxb2 Qxb2 31.Rb1 Qa2 32.Rb7 Qxa4 33.Bxd5 exd5 34.Rxc7 Qe8 35.Rc5 a4 36.Rxd5 ½-½ (44) Caruana,F (2805)-Giri,A (2773) Norway Chess 3rd 2015 (9) Rxd5 37.Qxd5 a3 38.Qa5 Qe1+ 39.Kg2 Qe4+ 40.Kh2 Qc2 41.Qxa3 Qxf2+ 42.Kh3 Qf1+ 43.Kh2 Qf2+ 44.Kh3 Qf1+ ½-½ Caruana,F (2805)-Hammer,J (2677) 125/3 2015]

7.d3 Bg4 0.66/21

[7...Bc5= 0.16/23]

8.h3 0.13/20

[White should try 8.exd4± 0.66/21 Nxd4 9.Re1]

8...Bxf3= 9.Bxf3 dxe3 0.56/22

[Better is 9...Bc5= -0.03/22]

10.Bxe3± Qd7 0.99/22

[10...Be7± 0.58/20 is more appropriate.]

11.Nc3 Be7 12.Qa4 0.40/18

[12.Qb3± 0.94/17 Na5 13.Qb5 Qxb5 14.Nxb5]

12...0-0 13.Kg2 Rfd8 14.Rad1 Nd4 15.Qxd7 0.28/24

[15.Bxb7± 0.66/23 was preferrable. Rab8 16.Bxd4 *(16.Qxa7? c6-+)*]

15...Rxd7= 16.Bxb7 Rb8 17.Be4

[17.Bxd4 exd4 18.Bc6 dxc3 19.Bxd7 Rxb2± *(19...Nxd7 20.bxc3 Nb6 21.Rb1=)*]

17...Rxb2 18.Rb1 Nxe4 19.dxe4 Rc2 20.Nd5 0.06/23

[20.Rfc1± 0.44/23]

20...f6 21.Rb7 Rxa2 22.Rfb1 Ne6 23.Nxe7+ Rxe7 24.Rxa7 Rxa7 25.Bxa7 Endgame. KRB-KRN **25...c5 26.Bb8 Rd7** White must now prevent ... Rd4. **27.Rb6** -0.69/23

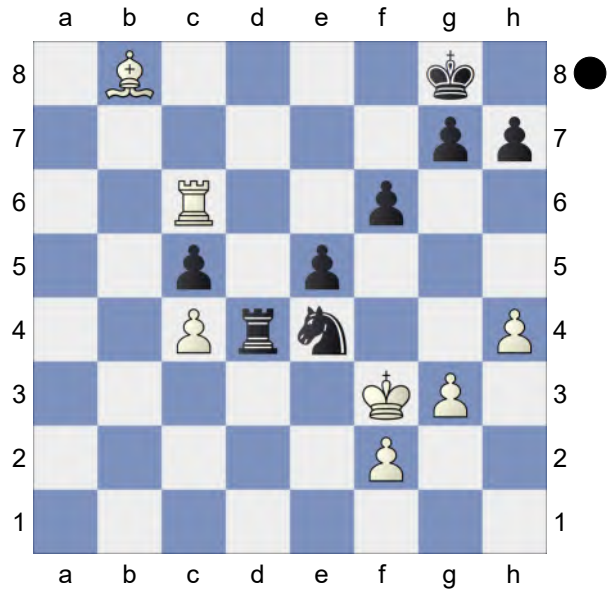
[27.h4= -0.08/23]

27...Ng5∓ 28.Rc6 -1.60/23

[White should play 28.f4!∓ -0.57/20 exf4 *(28...Nxe4 29.fxe5 Rd4 30.exf6=)* 29.Bxf4]

28...Nxe4∓ 29.Kf3 Rd4 30.h4? -3.59/20

[30.Rc8+ -1.72/17 was the only chance. Kf7 31.Rc7+ Kg6 32.Rc6]



30...h5-+

[Not 30...Rxc4 31.Rc8+ Kf7 32.Rc7+ Ke6 33.Ba7-+]

31.Ke3 Rxc4 32.f3 Nxg3

Weighted Error Value: White=0.36/ Black=0.13 (very precise)

0-1

C42

□ **Carlsen,M** **2831**

■ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**

CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (2.1) 17.12.24

[Kitty Kat]

C42: Petroff Defence: 3 Nxe5 and unusual White 3rd moves

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.Nc3 Nxc3 6.dxc3 Be7 7.Bf4 Nd7 8.Qd2 0-0 9.0-0-0 Nc5 10.h4 Re8 11.Bc4 Be6 0.36/21

[11...Bg4= -0.01/19]

12.Bxe6± White is slightly better.

12...Nxe6 13.Be3 c6

[13...Qd7 14.Qd5 Qc6 15.Qf5 Qc4 16.Kb1 g6 17.Qh3 h5 18.Nd2 Qe2 19.Rde1 Qg4 20.Qh2 d5 21.f3 Qa4 22.g4 Bd6 23.Qf2 hxg4 24.fxg4 Qxg4 25.Reg1 Qh5 26.Nf3 Re7 27.Bg5 Ree8 28.Be3 ½-½ (61) Anand,V (2799)-Kramnik,V (2799) Corus Wijk aan Zee 2008 (13)]

14.c4 Bf8N

[14...a5 15.Ng5 a4 16.a3 Qa5 17.Qd3 Nf8 18.Bd2 Qa6 19.Bc3 h6 20.Ne4 Ng6 21.Kb1 Rad8 22.h5 Ne5 23.Qg3 Qxc4 24.Rd4 Qe6 25.f4 d5 26.Rxa4 b5 27.Bxe5 f6 28.Nxf6+ Bxf6 29.Ra7 1-0 (41) Ajay,K (2454)-Tyurin,A (2397) Budapest FS04 GM 2023 (7) Bxe5 30.Re1 Qf6 31.fxe5 Qg5 32.Qxg5 hxg5 33.e6 Rd6 34.Re5 Rexe6 35.Rxg5 g6 36.Rg4 Rf6 37.b4 Kh8 38.h6 Rde6 39.Kb2 Re2 40.Rc7 Re5 41.Rg7 1-0 Ajay,K (2454)-Kshatriya,N (2224) Budapest Vezerkepzo GM-B 04 2023 (9)]

[14...a6 15.Ng5 b5 16.Qd3 Nf8 17.Qf5 f6 18.Ne6 Qc8 19.Nd4 bxc4 20.Qf3 d5 21.Nf5 Rb8 22.h5 Qb7 23.Bd4 Ne6 24.Qg4 Bf8 25.Bxf6 c5

26.Rhe1 d4 27.b3 Qd7 28.Bxg7 Bxg7 29.h6 1-0 (36) Carlsen,M (2714)-Karpov,A (2670) Wch Blitz 2007 (28)]

15.h5 a6 16.h6 g6 17.Qc3 Qe7 18.Rhe1 f5 0.61/21

[18...c5= 0.11/20]

19.Kb1 Qf7

[Avoid the trap 19...f4? 20.Bxf4 Qf7 21.Bxd6 Bxh6 22.Ne5+-]

20.Bc1 f4! 21.Rh1 0.07/21

[21.b4± 0.52/21 Bxh6 22.Rxd6]

21...Be7 1.08/19

[21...Nc5!= 0.07/21 keeps the balance.]

22.Rhe1 Bf8 23.g4 -0.14/20 White has more active pieces.

[23.b4!± 0.80/21 Bxh6 24.Rxd6]

23...Bxh6= 24.Rxd6 aiming for Ne5.

24...Bg7 0.36/22

[24...Nc5!= -0.18/22 25.Ne5 Qc7]

25.Qa5 Nf8 26.b3 Ng5 would now be deadly. **26...Rxe1 27.Qxe1 Re8 28.Qd2 Qe7 29.Bb2 Qe2 30.Qxf4** Threatens to win with Bxg7. **30...Qf1+**

[30...Qxf2 31.Bxg7 Kxg7 32.Rf6±]

31.Qc1 Qxf2 32.Bxg7 Kxg7 33.Qf4 Re6 0.99/23

[33...Qe3= 0.00/24 34.Qf6+ Kg8]

34.Rd8± Qc5 35.Rb8 0.76/21

[⌓35.Rc8 1.16/22]

35...Qe7 36.g5 c5 37.a4 a5

(Diagram)

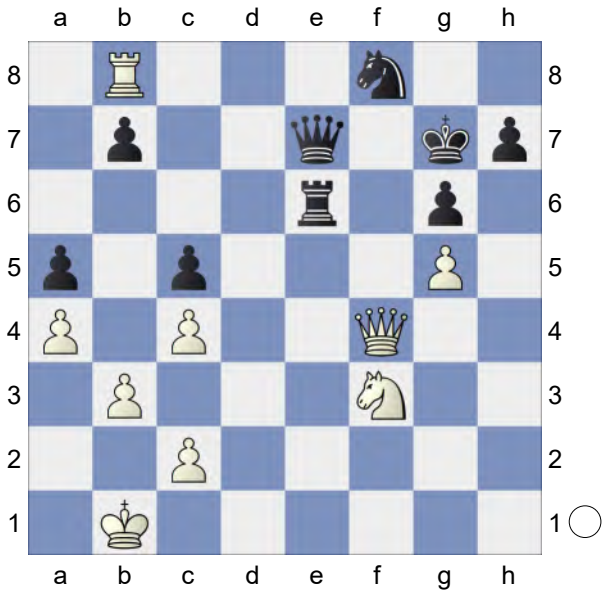
38.Qd2 0.25/24

[Better is 38.Rc8!± 0.75/22 Rc7 is the strong threat. Kg8 39.Rc7]

38...b6!= 39.Qc3+

[39.Ka2 is interesting. Qc7 40.Rd8 Re7 41.Rd6]

39...Kg8 40.Qd2↑ White is pushing. **40...Qc7 41.Rd8** Strongly threatening



Qd5. **41...Qf7 42.Qd5** Hoping for Ne5.

42...Kg7? 1.60/20

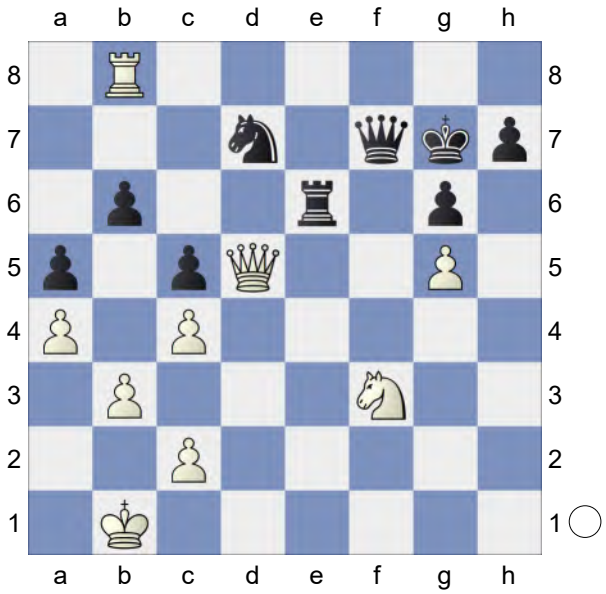
[Black should try 42...Re3!= 0.00/22 43.Nd2 Qe6]

43.Rb8 0.88/20

[White should play 43.Ne5 1.60/20 Qf5 44.Nd3 *(44.Qb7+ Kg8±)*]

43...Nd7? 4.19/21

[43...Qf5± 0.88/20 is a better chance.]



44.Rb7!+- Re7 45.Qd6 Kf8 9.66/26

[⌓45...Re6 4.41/20 46.Qxd7 Qxd7

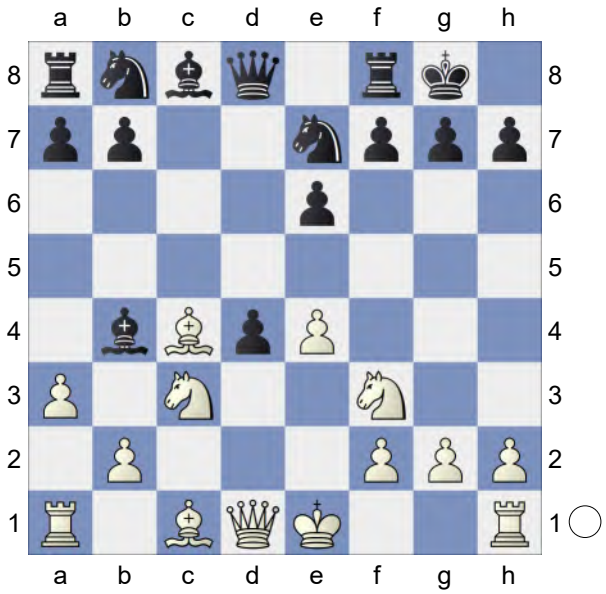
47.Rxd7+ Kg8]
46.Rxd7
Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.35
1-0

A13
□ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**
■ **Keymer,Vincent** **2733**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (2.1) 17.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

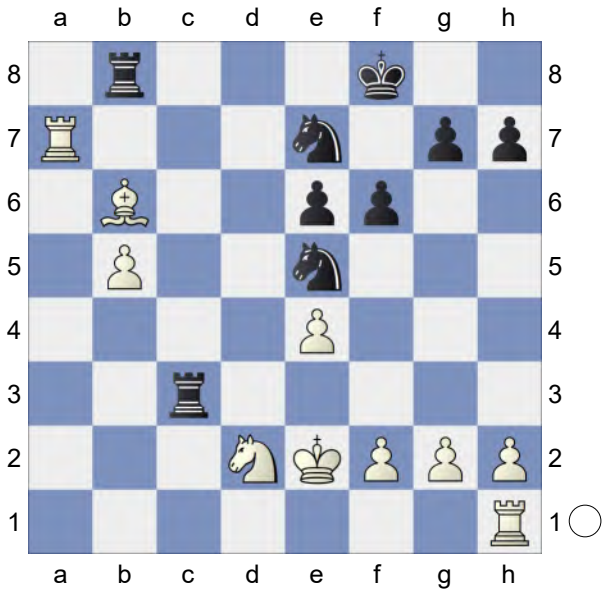
A13: English Opening: 1...e6
1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 Bb4 3.e4 Ne7 4.Nf3 0-0 5.d4
[5.a3 Bxc3 6.dxc3 d6 7.h4 e5 8.h5 Nd7 9.h6 g6 10.b4 b6 11.Ng5 Bb7 12.Be3 Nc6 13.Bd3 Qe7 14.Qc2 Nd8 15.0-0-0 f6 16.Nh3 Nf7 17.f3 a6 18.Kb2 Bc6 19.Qe2 Rfb8 1-0 (48) Yakubboev,N (2630)-Peralta,F (2596) Sharjah Masters 6th 2023 (3)]
5...d5 6.Bd3N
[6.cxd5 exd5 7.Bd3 dxe4 8.Bxe4 Nd5 9.0-0 Nf6 10.Bg5 c6 11.Bc2 Be7 12.Re1 Be6 13.Qd3 g6 14.Bh6 Re8 15.Rxe6 fxe6 16.Ng5 Qa5 17.b4 Qf5 18.Qe3 1-0 Krasenkow,M (2615)-Rozentalis,E (2650) POL-chT 53rd 1997 (3)]
6...dxc4 7.Bxc4 c5 8.a3 White is slightly better. **8...cxd4**

(Diagram)

Pin **9.axb4 dxc3 10.Qxd8 Rxd8 11.bxc3 b6** Black is weak on the dark squares **12.Bg5 Kf8 13.Ke2** White is much more active. The black rooks are passive. **13...Bb7 14.Nd2 Nbc6 15.Ba6**



[15.f3 is more complex. Ne5 16.Bb3 Bc6 17.Be3]
15...Bxa6+ 16.Rxa6 Rac8 1.80/22
[16...Nb8± 0.56/19 17.Ra3 Rc8]
17.b5+- f6 aiming for ...Nb8. **18.Be3 Ne5 19.Rxa7 Rxc3 20.Bxb6 Rb8**



21.Ba5 Rc2 2.49/24
[⌓21...Nc8 1.98/23 22.Bb4+ Kg8]
22.Rc7? 0.01/23
[Better is 22.Rb1+- 2.49/24 Threatens to win with Bb4. Nc4 23.Bb4 Nxd2 24.Kd3 *(24.Bxe7+ Kg8±; 24.Bxd2 Rd8±)* 24...Nxb1

25.Bxe7+ *(25.Kxc2 Rxb5 26.Bxe7+ Ke8+-)* 25...Kg8 26.Kxc2 Rxb5 27.Ra1]

22...Rxc7= The position is equal. **23.Bxc7 Rxb5 24.Bxe5 Rxe5** Endgame. KRN-KRN **25.Rc1 Rb5 26.Rc2 Rb7 27.h4 Ke8 28.g3 Kd7 29.Nf3 Nc6 30.Rd2+ Ke7 31.Rc2 Rb6 32.Rc3 Ra6 33.Ke3 Kd7 34.Nd4 Nxd4 35.Kxd4 Ra4+ 36.Ke3 Ra7 37.Rd3+ Ke7 38.Rc3 Kd7 39.Rd3+ Ke7** Black escapes into a draw.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.12 (very precise)

½-½

B52

□ **Aronian,L** **2747**

■ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**

CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (2.2) 17.12.24

[Kitty Kat]

B52: Sicilian: Moscow Variation with 3...Bd7

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+

[3.c3 Nf6 4.Bd3 b6 5.0-0 Bb7 6.Re1 e6 7.Bc2 Be7 8.d4 0-0 9.Nbd2 Na6 10.Nf1 d5 11.e5 Ne4 12.Ng3 cxd4 13.cxd4 Rc8 14.a3 Qc7 15.Bd3 Nb8 16.Qe2 a6 17.Bd2 Nxd2 1-0 (34) Holliday,B (2440)-4.e3 ♗g4 5. ♗c4 e6_37934 (2270) 28/149 Smederevska Palanka 1979]

3...Bd7N

[3...Nc6 4.b3 Bd7 5.Bb2 a6 6.Bc4 Nf6 7.e5 dxe5 8.Nxe5 Nxe5 9.Bxe5 Bc6 10.0-0 e6 11.Re1 Nd7 12.Bb2 Qg5 13.Bf1 Bd6 14.d4 Nf6 15.d5 0-0-0 16.dxc6 Bxh2+ 17.Kxh2 Rxd1 18.cxb7+ 0-1 (30) Aarush,R (2097)-Borwell,A (2578) 42/131 Baku 1986 (8) Kxb7 19.Rxd1 Qh5+ 20.Kg1 Qxd1 21.Na3 Qh5 22.g3 Rd8 23.Bg2+ Kc8 24.Bxf6 Rd1+ 25.Rxd1 Qxd1+ 26.Kh2 gxf6 27.Be4 Qf1 28.Bd3 Qxf2+ 29.Kh3 f5 30.Nc4 Qg1 0-1 Katz,F (2097)-Abbasov,F (2578) Rohde op 08th 2008 (8)]

4.Bxd7+ Qxd7 5.0-0 Nc6 6.c3 d5 7.e5 e6 8.d4 Nge7 9.dxc5 White has an edge. **9...Ng6 10.Re1** -0.50/18

[10.Be3= 0.28/19]

10...Bxc5∓ 11.Nbd2 0-0 12.Nb3 Bb6 13.Be3 Qc7

[13...Ncxe5? 14.Nxe5 Nxe5 15.Bxb6+-]

14.Bxb6 Qxb6 15.Qd2 f6 16.exf6 Rxf6 17.Nbd4 Re8 18.Re3 -0.99/19

[18.Nxc6= 0.17/19 bxc6 19.c4]

18...e5∓ 19.Ne2 Rd8 20.h3 e4 21.Nh2 Nce5 22.b3 Inhibits Nc4. **22...Nd3 23.Rf1 Rdf8** Black is much more active. The white rooks are passive. **24.Ng4 R6f7** Hoping for ...h5. **25.Rxd3 exd3 26.Qxd3 Rd8 27.Rd1 Nf4** -0.46/22

[27...Re8∓ -1.17/20 ...Ne5 is the strong threat. 28.Ne3 Qf6]

28.Nxf4∓ Rxf4 29.Ne3 Kh8 30.Rd2 Qe6↑ Black fights for an advantage. **31.Nc2 Re4 32.c4** -1.65/20 **d4-+ 33.Ne3** -2.14/21

[⌓33.a4 -1.75/18]

33...Qe5 ...Re8 would now be deadly. **34.Nf1** -3.14/20

[34.g3 -1.93/17 keeps fighting.]

34...Re1 35.g3 h6 36.Kg2 Qe4+ 37.Qxe4 Rxe4 Endgame. KRR-KRN **38.Ne3**

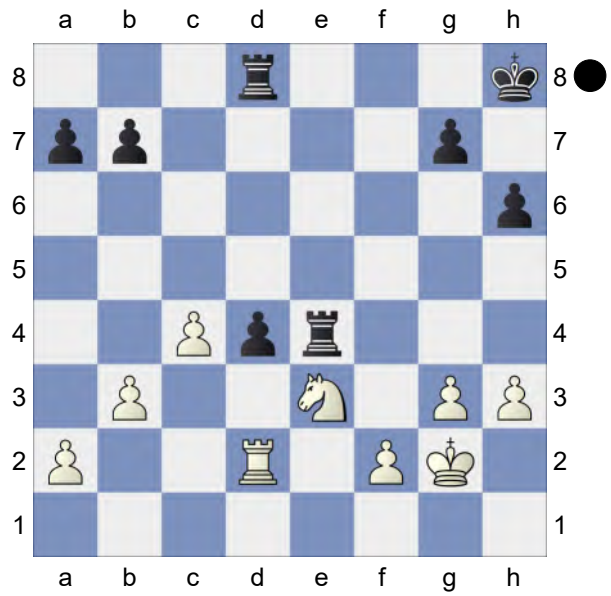
(Diagram)

Rde8! 39.Nf5 -2.18/23

[39.Nd5 -1.78/21 might work better.]

39...Re2 40.Rxd4 Rxa2? -0.67/21

[40...Rf8!-+ -2.20/20 41.g4 g6



(41...Rxa2 42.Rd7∓) 42.Nxh6 Rfxf2+ 43.Kg3 Rd2 *(43...Rxa2 44.Rd7∓)*]

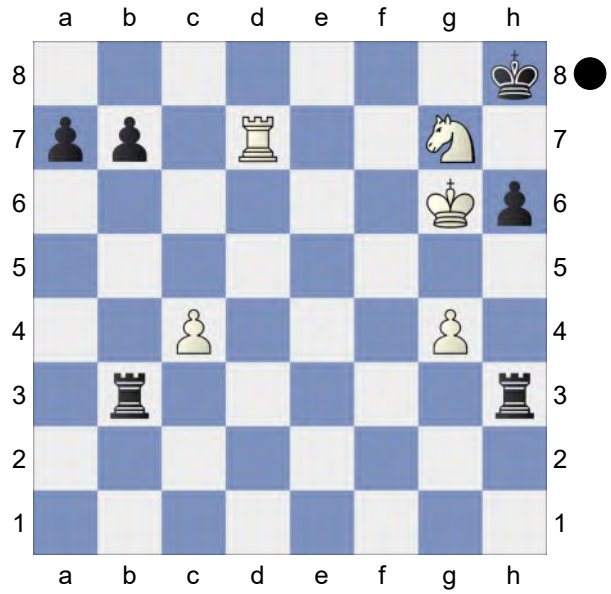
41.Rd7∓ Ree2 42.g4 Rxf2+ 43.Kg3 Rfb2

[43...g5 is interesting. 44.Rxb7 Rf4 45.c5 Raf2]

44.Nxg7? -3.40/20 Now White is beyond hope.

[44.Rxb7∓ -0.69/19 Ra3 45.Nd4]

44...Rxb3+-+ 45.Kh4 Rh2 46.Kh5 Rhxh3+ 47.Kg6

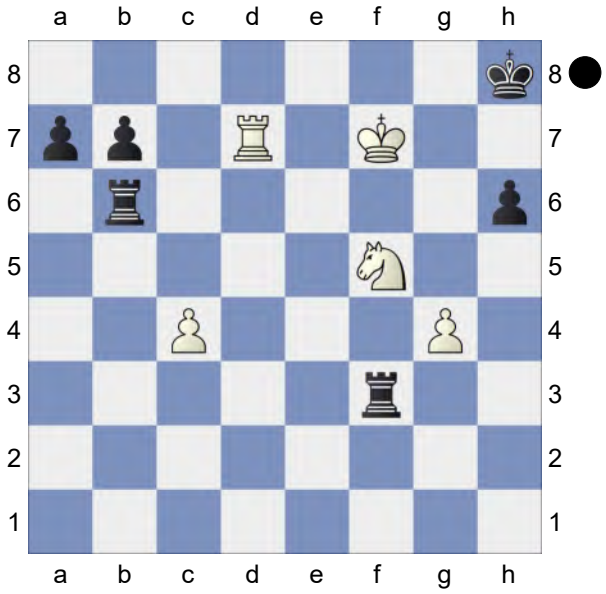


Rb6+! 48.Kf7 -4.66/18

[⌓48.Kf5 -3.27/17]

48...Rf3+ Black is clearly winning.

49.Nf5



h5! 50.Rd1

[50.c5 Rc6]

50...Rf4 51.Rh1 Rh6

[51...Rxc4 52.Rxh5+]

52.Ke7 Rh7+ 53.Kf6 hxg4 54.Rd1 Rc7

[54...Rxc4 55.Rd8#]

55.Kg5 -6.65/17

[⌓55.Kg6 -4.26/17 Rc6+ *(55...Rcxc4 56.Rd8#)* 56.Kg5 Rcxc4 57.Rd8+ Kh7 58.Rd7+ Kg8 59.Rxb7]

(Diagram)

55...Rxf5+! 56.Kxf5 g3

[56...Rxc4 57.Rd7-+]

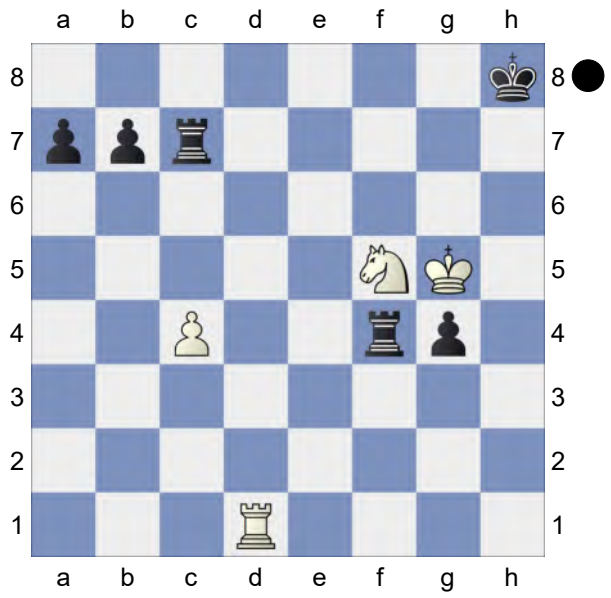
57.Rd8+ Kh7 Strongly threatening ...g2!

58.Rd1 g2

Weighted Error Value: White=0.47/ Black=0.29 (precise)

[Not 58...Rxc4 59.Rd3∓]

0-1



A40

□ **So,W** **2747**

■ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**

CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (2.2) 17.12.24

[Kitty Kat]

A55: Old Indian Defence with Nf3 and e4

1.d4 c6 2.c4 d6 3.Nf3 Nf6N

[3...Qa5+ 4.Nc3 h6 5.e4 g5 6.h3 Bg7 7.Be3 Nd7 8.Be2 Nf8 9.0-0 Ne6 10.a3 Nf6 11.b4 Qc7 12.Rc1 g4 13.hxg4 Nxg4 14.Bf4 h5 15.Bg3 Rg8 16.Nh4 Nxd4 17.f3 Ne3 18.Qd2 (20) Chapter-Games Chapter 3 (1)]

[3...Nd7 4.Nc3 h6 5.e4 g5 6.Be2 *(6.Bd3 Bg7 7.0-0 Nf8 8.Be3 Ne6 9.d5 Nf8 10.Nd4 c5 11.Nf5 Bxf5 12.exf5 Nd7 13.f4 Ngf6 14.fxg5 hxg5 15.Bxg5 Ne5 16.Bf4 Nh5 17.Be3 Qb6 18.Rb1 Nf6 19.Be2 0-0-0 20.a3 Bh6* (30) Chapter-Games Chapter 3 (1)*)* 6...Bg7 7.0-0 Nf8 8.d5 c5 9.Bd2 Ng6 10.Ne1 Nf6 11.Nd3 Nd7 12.f4 gxf4 13.Nxf4 Nxf4 14.Bxf4 Qb6 15.Rb1 Be5 16.Bh5 Bxf4 17.Rxf4 Rf8 18.Na4 (36) Chapter-Games Chapter 3 (2)]

4.Nc3 Qc7 5.e4 e5 6.Be2 Be7 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.Qc2 Nf8 9.Rd1 Ng6 10.b4 0-0 White is better. **11.h3 a5** 1.27/21

[⌓11...exd4 0.75/22 12.Nxd4 d5]

12.b5± Nd7 13.Rb1 exd4 14.Nxd4 Nc5 15.Be3 Black must now prevent b6. **15...Bf6 16.Nf5 Be5** 1.35/19

[⌓16...Bxf5 0.98/20 17.exf5 Ne5]

17.g3 0.78/22 White is more active.

[⌓17.Bf3 1.35/19]

17...Re8 1.26/20

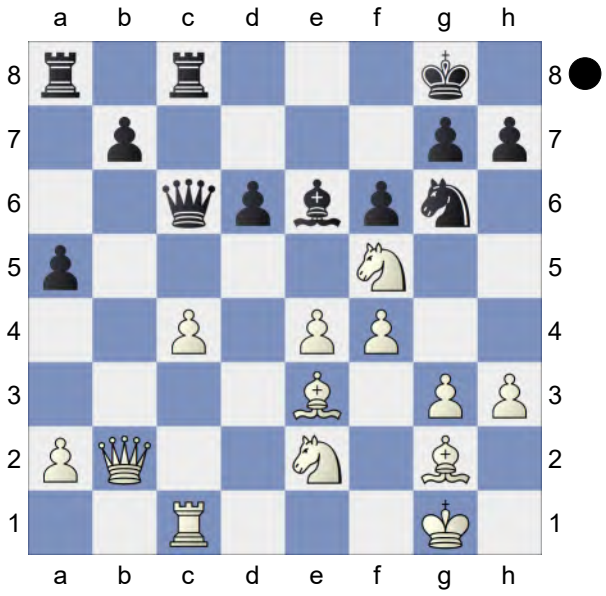
[Better is 17...Nxe4 0.78/22 18.Qxe4 Bxf5 19.Qxf5 Bxc3]

18.Bf3 f6 2.74/19 A mistake that costs the game.

[Avoid the trap 18...Bxc3? 19.b6 *(19.Qxc3 Bxf5 20.exf5 Ne5±)* 19...Qb8 20.Nxd6+- *(20.Qxc3 Ne5+-)*]

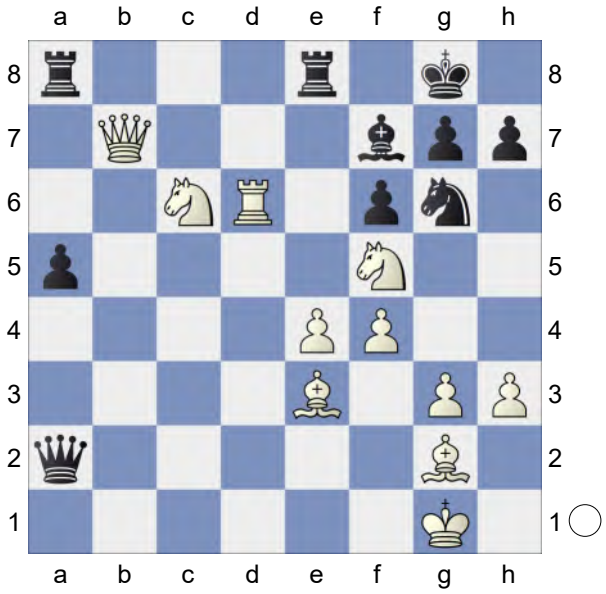
[18...a4± 1.30/18 keeps fighting. 19.Ne2 Bxf5 20.exf5 Nf8]

19.Ne2+- Be6 20.bxc6 Qxc6 21.Bg2 Na4 22.Rdc1 Rec8 23.f4 Bb2 24.Rxb2 Nxb2 25.Qxb2



aiming for Ned4. **25...Qd7 26.Rd1 Qa4 27.Rxd6** White is clearly winning.

27...Qxc4 28.Ned4 Qxa2 29.Qxb7 Bf7 30.Nc6 Inhibits Rab8. **30...Re8**



31.e5! Qb3 32.Qxb3 Bxb3 33.Ncd4
[Don't play 33.exf6 Rxe3 34.Nxe3 Re8 35.Bd5+ Bxd5 36.Nxd5 Rf8]
33...Ba2 34.Bxa8
Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.39
1-0

C50
□ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**
■ **Carlsen,M** **2831**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (2.2) 17.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

C50: Hungarian Defence and Giuoco Pianissimo
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.d3 Nf6 5.Nc3 h6 6.Be3 Bb6 7.Bxb6N
[7.h3 d6 8.Qd2 Nd4 *(8...Be6 9.Bb3 Qd7 10.Ne2 Ba5 11.c3 d5 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.Ng3 Nxe3 14.Bxe6 fxe6 15.Qxe3 Bb6 16.Qe2 Qd6 17.0-0 0-0-0 18.Rad1 Rhf8 19.b4 Rd7 20.Rfe1 a6 21.Nxe5 Nxe5 22.Qxe5 Qxe5 23.Rxe5* 0-1 (63) Colas,J (2200)-Kulkarni,V (2310) Titled Tuesday intern op 22nd Nov Early blitz 2022 (4)*; 8...Qe7 9.a3 Be6 10.Bxe6 Qxe6 11.Bxb6 axb6 12.Nb5 0-0-0 13.c4 Nh5 14.Nh4 Nf4 15.g3 Qf6 16.Nf5 Ne6 17.Qd1 Ned4 18.Ne3 Qf3 19.Qxf3 Nxf3+ 20.Kf1 Nfd4 21.Nxd4 Nxd4 22.Rc1 c6 23.Kg2* ½-½ (41) Halprin,A-Tarrasch,S Imperial Jubilee tournament 1898 (26) *)* 9.a3 Be6 10.Nd5 Nxf3+ 11.gxf3 Nxd5 12.exd5 Bf5 13.Rg1 g6 14.Bxh6 Bxh3 15.0-0-0 Qh4 16.Be3 Bxe3 17.fxe3 0-0-0 18.Qa5 Kb8 19.d4 exd4 20.Rxd4 Qf2 21.Rgd1 Qxe3+ 1-0 (55) 4 Nf3 c5 5 g3-Heinrich,G WchT Students 06th 1959 (2) 22.Kb1 Qxf3 23.Ba6 b6 24.Qa4 Bc8 25.Bc4 Rh1 26.c3 Bg4 27.Bb3 Rxd1+ 28.Bxd1 Qf5+ 29.Bc2 Qf1+ 30.Ka2 Bd7 31.Qb3 Re8 32.Rd1 Qb5 33.Qxb5 Bxb5 34.Kb3 a5 35.a4 Bd7 36.Rf1 Rf8 1-0 (55) Morales,J-Alonso,S COL-ch U14 Cartagena 2023 (2)]
7...axb6 8.d4 exd4 0.30/23
[8...Nxe4! -0.16/26 deserves consideration. 9.Nxe4 d5]
9.Nxd4= 0-0 10.Ndb5! White is slightly better. **10...Re8 11.0-0 d6 12.Re1 Ne5 13.Bf1 Bd7 14.Qd2 Ng6 15.a4 Bxb5 16.Bxb5 c6 17.Bf1 Qc7 18.Rad1 Rad8 19.f4 Nf8 20.g3 Ne6** 0.75/18
[20...d5± 0.34/21]
21.Bg2± b5 22.axb5 cxb5 23.h3 b4 24.Nd5 -0.06/19
[24.Na2± 0.34/18]
24...Nxd5= 25.exd5 Qb6+ 26.Kh2 Nc5 27.b3 Nd7 28.g4 Qc5 29.Re2 Rxe2 30.Qxe2 Nf6 31.Qc4 Qxc4 32.bxc4 Endgame. KRB-KRN **32...Rc8 33.Bf1 Ne4 34.Kg2 Kf8 35.Rb1 Nc5 36.Rxb4 Ra8 37.Bd3 Ra3 38.g5 hxg5**

The position is equal. **39.fxg5 g6 40.h4 Ra1 41.Rb2 Ke7 42.Be2 Re1 43.Kf2 Rh1 44.Kg3 Re1 45.Kf2 Rh1 46.Kg3 Re1**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.07 (flawless)
½-½

A07
□ **Keymer,Vincent** **2733**
■ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (2.2) 17.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

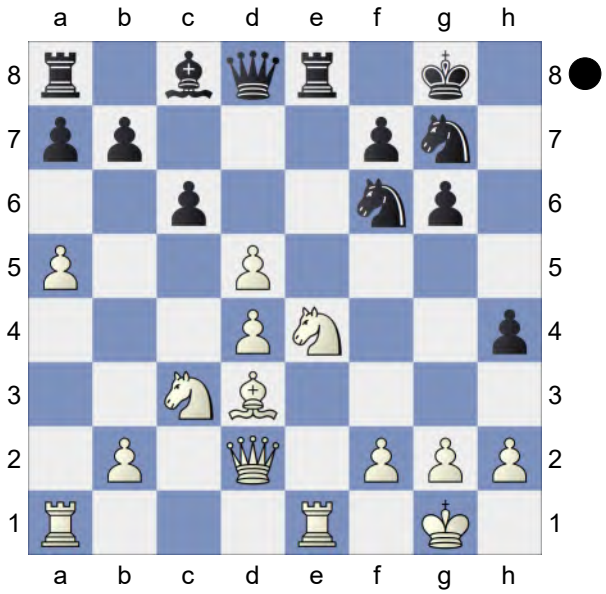
A07: Réti Opening: New York and Capablanca Systems
Kramnik was also the creator of another interesting segment, an inspiring exchange sacrifice. Kramnik was also the creator of another interesting segment, an inspiring exchange sacrifice. **1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 e6 4.0-0 Be7 5.d3 0-0 6.Nbd2 Nc6** 0.24/22
[⌓6...a5 -0.13/22]
7.d4 a5
[7...Ne4 8.c3 f5 9.Ne1 e5 *(9...a5 10.Nd3 b6 11.Nf3 Ba6 12.h4 Qe8 13.Bf4 Bd6 14.Qc1 h6 15.Qe3 a4 16.Rac1 Na5 17.Nd2 Nc4 18.Nxc4 Bxc4 19.a3 Qb5 20.Rc2 Rae8 21.h5 Bb3 22.Rcc1 Bc4 23.Rc2 Bb3 24.Rcc1* ½-½ (25) Osnos,V (2768)-Behrmann (2541) 50/207 Groningen 1990 (9)*)* 10.dxe5 Nxe5 11.Nd3 Ng6 12.c4 Be6 13.cxd5 Nxd2 14.dxe6 Nxf1 15.Kxf1 c6 16.Qb3 Qb6 17.Qc4 Kh8 18.Be3 Qc7 19.f4 Rad8 20.Rc1 Bf6 21.Qb4 Rfe8 22.Bxa7 ½-½ (49) Kramnik,V (2801)-Aronian,L (2792) Zuerich (rapid) 127/2 2016]
8.c3 b6 9.Qc2N
[9.Re1 Bb7 10.e4 Nxe4 11.Nxe4 dxe4 12.Rxe4 Bf6 13.Re1 Ne7 14.h4 a4 15.Bg5 Bxg5 16.Nxg5 Bxg2 17.Kxg2 h6 18.Nf3 Qd5 Chapter-6.Nbd2 Nc6 White' rare lines 2024]
9...Bb7 10.e4 dxe4 11.Nxe4 Nxe4 12.Qxe4 a4 13.Re1 Na5 14.Qe2 h6 15.Bf4 Bd6 16.Be3 Bd5 17.Nd2 Be7
[17...Bxg2 simplifies 18.Kxg2 Nc6 19.Nf3 Ra5]
18.Qg4 Kh7 19.Qh5 Bxg2 20.Kxg2 c6
[20...Qd7 simplifies 21.Qf3 Kg8 22.b4 axb3 23.axb3 Nc6]
21.Kg1 Qd5 22.Qd1 b5 23.Bf4 Qd7 0.29/22
[⌓23...Nc4 -0.27/20]
24.Qg4 -0.13/20
[⌓24.b3 0.29/22]
24...Bd6 0.33/21
[24...g5= -0.13/20 25.Be3 f5]
25.Bxd6 Qxd6 26.Re5 Rad8 27.Rae1 Qc7 28.Qh4 Rd5 29.g4 Kg8 30.Qg3 Nc4 31.Nxc4 bxc4 32.h4 Rb8 33.R1e2 Rbb5 34.g5 hxg5 35.hxg5 Rxe5 36.dxe5= -0.57/25 Endgame. KQR-KQR
[36.Rxe5= -0.16/23 Rxb2 37.g6]
36...Qd8 37.Kg2 Qd3 -0.11/25
[37...a3∓ -0.72/26 38.bxa3 Qd5+ 39.f3 Rb1]
38.Qg4 The position is equal. **38...g6** White should prevent ...a3! **39.a3 Kf8 40.Qe4 Qd5 41.Kg3 Qd3+ 42.Kg2 Qd5 43.Kg3 Qd3+ 44.Kg2 Qd5**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.11 (very precise)
½-½

D35
□ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**
■ **Keymer,Vincent** **2733**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (2.3) 17.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

D35: Queen's Gambit Declined: Exchange Variation
1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 Nf6 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bg5 Be7 6.e3 h6 7.Bh4 0-0 8.Bd3 c6 9.Nge2 Nbd7 10.0-0 Re8 11.a4 Nh5 12.Bxe7 Qxe7 White is slightly better. **13.a5 g6 14.Qd2 Ndf6 15.Rfe1 Ng7 16.Ng3 h5 17.e4N**
[17.f3 h4 18.Nh1 c5 19.dxc5 Qxc5 20.Nb5 Ne6 21.Nf2 a6 22.Rac1 Qe7 23.Nd4 Nd7 24.Nxe6 Qxe6 25.e4 Ne5 26.Bf1 Qf6 27.exd5 Bf5 28.Rc3 Nd7 29.Rec1 Rad8 30.h3 Qd6 31.Rc7 Nf6 ½-½ (89) Salem,A (2652)-Jani Kushal,R (2106) Abu Dhabi op-A 30th 2024 (2)]
17...h4 0.41/22
[17...dxe4= 0.03/24 should be considered. 18.Ncxe4 *(18.Ngxe4 Be6=)* 18...Be6]
18.exd5± Qd8 19.Nge4
[19.Rxe8+ simplifies Nfxe8 20.Nf1 cxd5 21.h3]

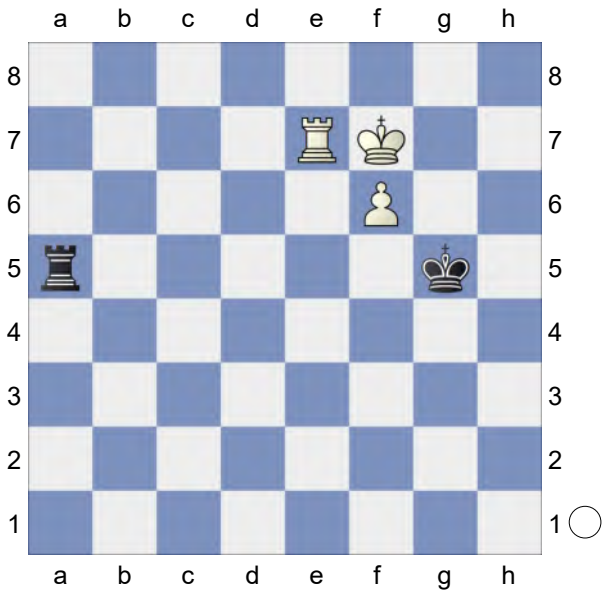
(Diagram)

aiming for Nxf6+. **19...Nxd5 20.h3 Bf5 21.Qh6**
[21.Re2 simplifies Bxe4 22.Bxe4 Nf6 23.a6]
21...Bxe4 22.Bxe4 Nxc3 23.bxc3 Qf6 24.Bf3 -0.01/27
[24.a6± 0.43/25]
24...Rad8 25.Rab1 Rxe1+ 26.Rxe1 Re8 27.Rb1 Re7 28.Qd2 Nf5 29.Qf4 Qd6 30.Qg5 -0.44/27



[30.Qxd6= 0.06/26 Nxd6 31.a6]
30...Kg7 -0.03/28
[30...Qa3∓ -0.44/27 31.Bg4 Qxa5]
31.Bg4 Qf6
[31...Qd8!? 32.Qc1 *(32.Bxf5?* loses. *Re1+* Discovered Attack *33.Rxe1 Qxg5-+)* 32...Qxa5∓]
32.Qd2 Nd6 33.Qa2 Ne4 34.Qc2 Nd6 35.Qd3 Qf4 36.Bf3 a6 37.c4 Nf5 38.Rd1 Qd6 39.d5 c5 40.Be2 -0.36/25
[40.Bg4= 0.00/27 might be stronger. Nd4 41.Rb1]
40...Nd4 41.Bf1 Qf6 42.Rb1 Qf4 43.Qa3 Ne2+ 44.Bxe2 Rxe2 45.Qxc5= Endgame. KQR-KQR
45...Rc2 46.Qe3
[46.Rxb7? Rc1#]
46...Rxc4 47.Qxf4
[47.Rxb7? too greedy. Rc1+-+]
47...Rxf4 KR-KR **48.d6 Rd4** Prevents Rd1. **49.Rxb7** Rb6 is the strong threat. **49...Rxd6 50.Rb6 Rd1+ 51.Kh2 Rd2 52.f3 Ra2 53.Rxa6 Ra1 54.Ra7 g5 55.Ra8 Kh7 56.Ra6 Kg7 57.Ra8 Kh7 58.a6 Kg7 59.a7 Kh7 60.g4 hxg3+ 61.Kxg3 Ra4 62.Kf2 Kg7 63.Ke3 Ra1 64.Kd4 Ra5 65.Kc4 Ra1 66.Kc5 Ra2 67.Kb6 Rb2+**

68.Kc6 Rc2+ 69.Kd6
[69.Kd5!? Ra2□ 70.f4 gxf4 71.Ke4=]
69...Ra2 70.Ke5 Ra5+ 71.Ke4 Ra4+ 72.Kf5 Ra5+ 73.Kg4 Kh7 74.Re8 Rxa7 75.Kxg5 Kg7 76.h4 Ra1 77.Re4 Ra5+ 78.Kf4 Ra1 79.Re5 Ra4+ 80.Kg3 f6 81.Rb5 Ra1 82.Kg4 Ra4+ 83.f4 Kg6 84.h5+ Kh6 85.Rb6 Kg7 86.Rb7+ Kh6 87.Rf7 Ra6 88.Kf5 Ra4 89.Rxf6+ Kxh5 90.Re6 Rb4 91.Re8 Kh6 92.Re7 Ra4 93.Ke5 Ra5+ 94.Kf6 Ra6+ 95.Re6 Ra5 96.f5 Kh7 97.Re7+ Kh6 98.Re8 Kh7 Wards off Rh8+ **99.Re7+ Kh6 100.Ke6 Ra6+ 101.Kf7** White wants to mate with Re6+. **101...Ra5 102.f6 Kg5?** #34/16
[102...Ra6= 0.00/31]

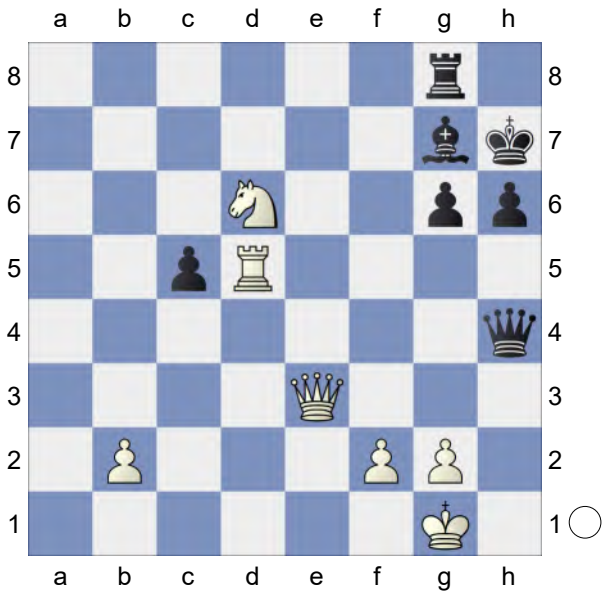


103.Kg7 Ra6 104.f7 Rg6+ 105.Kf8 137.22/23
[⌓105.Kh7 #39/27 Rh6+ 106.Kg8 Rg6+ 107.Kf8 Rc6 108.Rd7 Kh5 109.Ke7 Rc8 110.f8Q *(110.f8R Rc5+-)*]
105...Ra6 106.Rd7 Threatening mate with Ke7. **106...Kf6 107.Kg8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.07 (flawless)
1-0

C55
□ **Firouzja,Alireza 2763**
■ **Lazavik,Denis 2578**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (3.1) 17.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

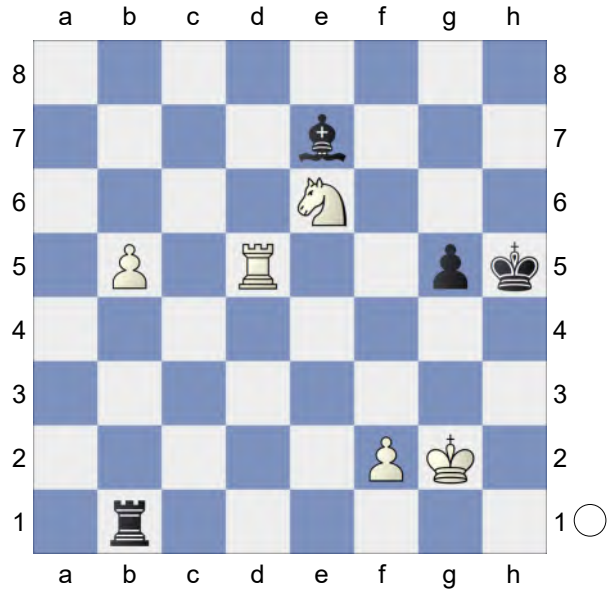
C55: Two Knights: 4 d3, 4 d4 exd4 5 e5 and Max Lange Attack
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Be7
[4...d5 5.exd5 Nxd5 6.0-0 Nb6 7.Bb5 Bd6 8.d4 e4 9.Re1 f5 10.Bg5 Qd7 11.c4 0-0 12.c5 exf3 13.cxb6 Qf7 14.Bxc6 bxc6 15.Qxf3 axb6 16.Nc3 f4 17.Qxc6 Bd7 18.Qd5 Qxd5 19.Nxd5 1-0 (41) Rojas Keim,L (2680)-Vasquez Bonifacio,L (2738) Metz op 28th 2010 (5.5)]
[4...Bc5 5.Nc3 h6 6.h3 d6 7.Na4 Bb6 8.a3 Ne7 9.Nxb6 axb6 10.Ba2 Ng6 11.0-0 0-0 12.Re1 Be6 13.Bb1 Re8 14.d4 c6 15.c3 Qc7 16.Be3 Rad8 17.a4 d5 18.Nxe5 Nxe5 19.dxe5 1-0 (38) Quist,J (2427)-14.♘e4 ♖b8 15.c4 ♖e8_20 (2165) 55/47 London 1992 (4)]
5.0-0 0-0 6.Nc3 d6 7.a4N
[7.a3 Bg4 8.h3 Bxf3 9.Qxf3 Nd4 10.Qd1 c6 11.f4 exf4 12.Rxf4 d5 13.exd5 cxd5 14.Ba2 Bc5 15.Kh1 Re8 16.Rf1 Ne6 17.g4 d4 18.Na4 Be7 19.g5 Nd7 20.Rxf7 Bd6 21.Rf5 Qc7 ½-½ (56) Edighoffer,H-Melton,R APCT King ch-1 1996]
7...Na5 8.Ba2 Nc6 9.Re1 White has an edge. **9...Be6 10.a5 Bxa2 11.Rxa2 b6 12.axb6 axb6 13.Rxa8 Qxa8 14.Bg5 h6 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.Nd5 Bd8 17.Qa1**

Qb7 18.Qa2 Ne7 19.Ne3 c6 20.Ra1 b5 21.Qa7 Inhibits Bb6. **21...Qc8 22.c4** 0.38/18
[22.h4!± 0.93/20]
22...bxc4± 23.dxc4 f5 24.c5 dxc5 25.Nxe5 fxe4 0.63/22
[25...Bc7= 0.27/23]
26.Nd7! A dynamic duo of knights.
26...Re8? 2.07/22
[26...Rf7± 0.36/19 27.Nxc5 *(27.Ne5 Rf8±)* 27...Rf8]
27.Qa2++-
[27.Nxc5 Nf5±]
27...Kh8 28.Qf7!
[28.Nxc5 Bb6 29.Nxe4 Bxe3 30.fxe3 *(30.Nd6 Bxf2+* Decoy *31.Kxf2 Rf8+ 32.Kg1 Qb8∓)* 30...Nf5=]
28...Rg8 4.18/23
[28...Qxd7 29.Rd1+-]
[28...Bc7 2.47/20 was necessary.]
29.Rd1? 0.25/17
[29.Nxc5 Nd5=]
[29.Ra7+- 4.18/23]
29...Nd5!= 30.Nxd5
[30.Nxc5 Nxe3 31.fxe3 Bg5=]
30...cxd5 31.Qxd5→ White is up to no good. **31...Bg5** 0.84/23
[31...Re8± 0.33/18]
32.Ne5!± Black must now prevent Nf7+. White has more active pieces.
[32.Qxc5 e3 33.Qxc8 *(33.fxe3? Qxc5* Remove Defender *34.Nxc5 Bxe3+ 35.Kh1 Bxc5-+)* 33...Rxc8 34.fxe3 Bxe3+ 35.Kh1 Kg8=]
32...Bf6 33.Nf7+
[33.Qxe4 Re8 34.f4 Bxe5 35.fxe5 Qe6]
33...Kh7 34.Qxe4+ g6 35.h4 0.10/24
[35.Ne5± 0.96/18 aiming for Rd7+. Rg7 36.b3 *(36.Rd6 Qf8±)*]
35...Qf5 36.Qe3
[36.Nd6 simplifies Qxe4 37.Nxe4 Bxb2 38.Nxc5 Bf6 39.g3]
36...Bg7 37.Nd6 Qg4 38.Rd5 Qxh4 1.09/21
[38...Bd4= 0.05/18 39.Qe7+ Rg7]



39.g3 0.03/22
[39.Rxc5?! Ra8=]
[39.Ne8!± 1.09/21 Strongly threatening Rd7. Qa4 *(39...Bd4? 40.Rd7+ Rg7 41.Nxg7+-)* 40.Nxg7 Qa1+ 41.Kh2 Rxg7 42.b3 *(42.Rxc5 Qxb2 43.Re5 Qb8=)*]
39...Qg4 1.21/19
[39...Qf6= 0.03/22 keeps the balance.]
40.Ne4 0.04/23
[40.Rxc5? is the wrong capture. Qd1+ *(40...Bxb2 41.Ne8±)* 41.Kg2 Qxd6-+]
[40.Qxc5?! Qe6=]
[40.Ne8± 1.21/19 Qe7 is the strong threat. Qa4 41.Nxg7 Qa1+ 42.Kh2 Rxg7 43.b3 *(43.Rxc5 Qxb2 44.Rc4 Rf7=)*]
40...Rf8 0.79/20
[40...Re8? 41.Nf6+ Bxf6 42.Qxe8+-]
[40...c4= 0.04/23]
41.Rxc5 0.16/20

[41.Nxc5± 0.79/20 Rd7 would now be deadly. Rf3 42.Qe4 Qxe4 43.Nxe4]
41...Qf3 0.72/19
[41...Qd7!= 0.16/20 remains equal.]
42.Qxf3 Rxf3 Endgame. KRB-KRN **43.b4** 0.28/22
[43.Rb5± 0.73/21]
43...Rb3= 44.b5 Bd4 45.Rd5 Bg7 46.Kg2 g5 47.g4 Bf8 48.Ng3 0.81/23
[⌓48.Rf5 1.48/24 Kg8 49.Nf6+ Kg7 50.Ne8+ Kg8 51.Nc7 *(51.Nf6+ Kg7±)*]
48...Kg6 49.Nf5 0.17/25
[49.Ne4± 0.75/20]
49...h5 50.Nd4 Rb1 2.38/21
[Black should play 50...Rb2!± 0.33/22]
51.gxh5++- Kxh5 52.Ne6 Be7

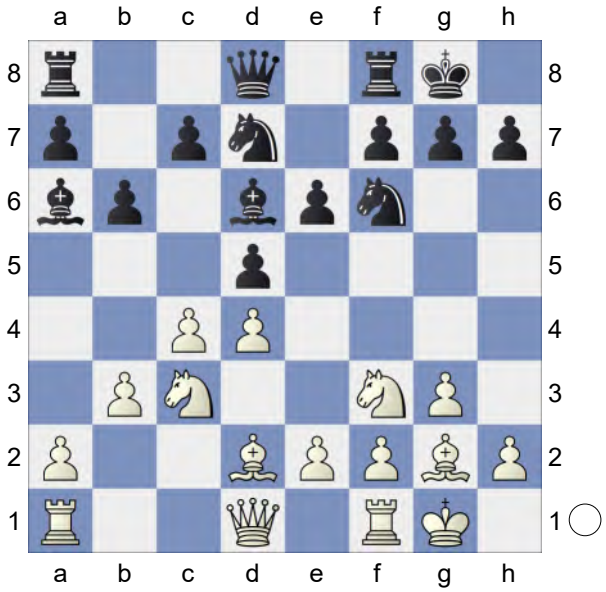


53.Nd4? 0.04/27
[53.f4!+- 1.79/27]
53...Rb2 54.Nf5 Bf6 55.Nd6 Be7 56.Nc4 Rb4 57.Ne5 Threatens to win with Nc6. **57...Rb2 58.Nd3 Rb1 59.Kf3 Kg6 60.Ke4 Kf6 61.Kd4 Ke6** Black is now going downhill. **62.Kc4** Dodges Rb3 **62...Bd6?** 4.45/18
[62...Kf7± 1.05/21 63.Re5 Ke8]
63.Rxg5 Be7 64.Re5+ Kd6 65.Rd5+
[65.Re1 Rxe1 66.Nxe1 Bd8±]
65...Ke6 66.f4 Bf6? 5.50/19
[66...Kf6 3.41/19 might work better. 67.Kc3 Ke6]
67.f5+ Ke7 68.Rc5 Bg5 69.Rc6 Bh4 70.Re6+ Kd7 71.Nc5+ Kc7 72.Rc6+ Kd8 73.b6 Rc1+ 74.Kb5 Rb1+ 75.Ka6 Ra1+ 76.Kb5 Rb1+ 77.Kc4 Rc1+ 78.Kd5 Ne6+ would kill now. **78...Rd1+ 79.Ke6** Threatening mate with Nb7+. **79...Re1+ 80.Kf7** White wants to mate with Nb7+. **80...Bg3 81.b7** White mates. **81...Re7+ 82.Kg6 Re3 83.Rc8+ Ke7 84.f6+**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.33/ Black=0.35
1-0

E15
□ **Keymer,Vincent** **2733**
■ **Aronian,L** **2747**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (3.1) 17.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

E15: Queen's Indian: 4 g3 sidelines, 4 g3 Ba6 and 4 g3 Bb7 early deviations
Current Reputation: Playable for both sides **1.c4 Nf6 2.Nf3 b6 3.d4 e6 4.g3 Ba6 5.b3 d5 6.Bg2 Bb4+ 7.Bd2 Bd6 8.0-0 0-0 9.Nc3**
[9.Bg5 Nbd7 10.cxd5 exd5 11.Nc3 h6 12.Bf4 Bb4 13.Rc1 Rc8 14.Ne5 c6 15.a3 Be7 16.b4 g5 17.Nxd7 Qxd7 18.Bd2 Rfe8 19.Re1 Bf8 20.Qa4 Bc4 21.e4 dxe4 22.Nxe4 Nxe4 23.Rxe4 b5 0-1 (78) Xu,Z (2489)-Zhang,Z (2617) CHN-chT Div-A Rapid 2022 (2.1)]
9...Nbd7N
[9...dxc4 10.Ne5 c6 11.bxc4 Qc7 12.Bf4 Bb7 13.Rc1 Nh5 14.Ne4 Nxf4 15.gxf4 c5 16.Qd3 Bxe5 17.Ng5 g6 18.Qh3 h5 19.dxe5 Nc6

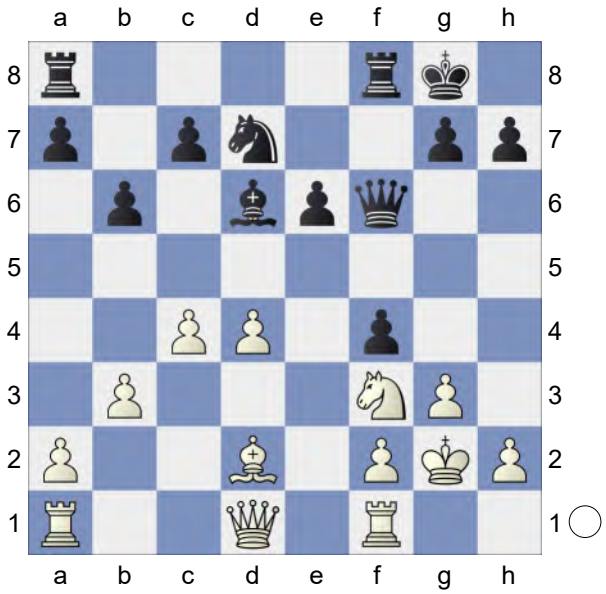
20.Ne4 Nd4 21.Nf6+ Kg7 22.Rfe1 Nf5 23.Rc3 Rh8 24.Rd1 1-0 (54) Carlsen,M (2864)-Nakamura,H (2784) 118/166 Moscow 2013]
[9...Bb7 10.e4 dxe4 11.Ng5 Be7 12.Ngxe4 Nxe4 13.Nxe4 Nc6 14.Bc3 a5 15.Re1 Rb8 16.f4 Qd7 17.Qd2 Bb4 18.Rad1 Queen'S Indian Defense,C-Quiet Line 223 Linz 2012]



10.e4! White is slightly better. **10...Nxe4 11.Nxe4 dxe4 12.Ng5 Bb7 13.Nxe4 f5 14.Ng5 Bxg2 15.Kxg2**
[15.Nxe6 Qe7 16.Nxf8 Bxf1 17.Nxd7 Be2= *(17...Bxc4 18.Nxb6 axb6 19.bxc4±)*]
15...Qf6 16.Nf3 f4 0.77/19
[16...e5= 0.27/21]

(Diagram)

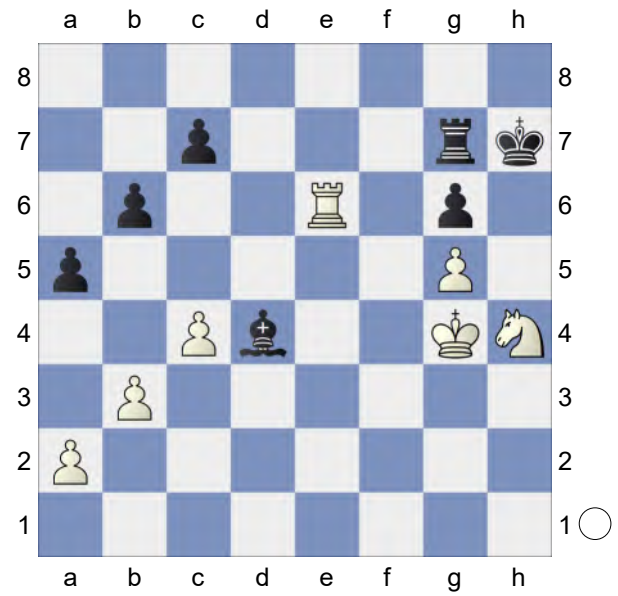
17.Qe2 0.12/21
[White should try 17.b4!± 0.77/19]
17...e5= 18.dxe5 Nxe5 19.Bc3 Rae8 20.Bxe5
[20.Rae1 simplifies fxg3 21.fxg3 Nxf3 22.Qxf3 Qxf3+ 23.Rxf3 a5



24.Bd2]
20...Bxe5 21.Rae1 fxg3 22.fxg3
[22.Nxe5 Rxe5 23.Qxe5 Qf3+ *(23...gxf2? 24.Re3+-)* 24.Kg1 gxf2+∓]
22...Qc6! aiming for ...Bc3.
[Don't blunder 22...Bxg3? 23.Qxe8 Bxe1 *(23...Rxe8? 24.Rxe8+ Kf7 25.Re4+-)* 24.Qxe1+-]
23.Qe4 Qxe4 24.Rxe4 Bf6 25.Rfe1 Rd8 26.g4 h6 27.h4 a5 28.R1e2 Rd6 29.g5 hxg5 30.hxg5 Bc3 31.Re7 Rf7 32.Kg3 g6 33.R2e6 Rxe6 34.Rxe6 Endgame. KRB-KRN **34...Kh7 35.Nh4 Rg7**
[35...Bd2 36.Rxg6 *(36.Nxg6 Bxg5 37.Ne5 Bf4+ 38.Kg4 Bxe5=)* 36...Rf1 37.c5]
36.Kg4 Bd4 1.50/25
[36...Bb4= 0.10/25]

(Diagram)

37.Nf3 0.13/26
[37.Ng2!± 1.50/25]
37...Rd7 1.32/24
[37...Bc5= 0.13/26 remains equal.]



38.Nd2 0.04/25 White is more active.
[38.Nh4± 1.32/24]
38...Kg7 39.Ne4 Kf7 40.Rc6 And now Nf6 would win. **40...Be5 41.c5 b5**
[41...Rd4!? 42.Kf3□ a4=]
42.Ra6 a4 43.bxa4 Rd4 44.Kf3 Rxa4 45.Rxa4 bxa4 KB-KN **46.Nd2 Bd4 47.c6 Ke6 48.Ke4 Bc5 49.Nf3 Be7 50.Ne5 Bxg5 51.Nxg6 Kd6 52.Ne5** Nf7+ is the strong threat. **52...Bf6 53.Nc4+ Kxc6** Hoping for ...Kc5. **54.Kd3 Kc5 55.Nd2 Kb4** ...Ka3 would now be deadly. **56.Kc2 c5 57.Ne4 Be5 58.Nf2 c4 59.Ne4 Bd4 60.Nd2 Bc5 61.Ne4 Be3 62.Nf6 Bd4 63.Ne4 Ka3 64.Kb1 c3 65.Ng3 Bf6 66.Ne2 Be5 67.Nc1 Bf4** Threatens to win with ... Bxc1. **68.Nd3 Be3?** 6.93/49
[68...Bg5= 0.00/60]
69.Ne5? 0.00/60
[White has to play 69.Ne1+- 6.93/49 Kb4 70.Nc2+ Kc4 71.Nxe3+ Kd3 72.Nd5]
69...Bd4 70.Nd3 Be3? 6.93/45
[70...Bg7= 0.00/55]
71.Ne5? 0.00/56
[White must play 71.Ne1+- 6.93/45 Kb4 72.Nc2+ Kc4 73.Nxe3+ Kd3 74.Nd5]
71...Bf4 The position is equal. **72.Nd3 Bg3 73.Nc1 Bh4 74.Nd3 c2+** Deflection **75.Kxc2 Kxa2 76.Nc5 Be7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.11 (very precise)
½-½

A20
□ **Carlsen,M** **2831**
■ **So,W** **2747**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (3.1) 17.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

A20: English Opening: 1...e5
1.c4 e5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 c6 4.d4 Bb4+ 5.Bd2 Bxd2+ 6.Qxd2 d6 7.Nc3 0-0 8.Rd1
[8.b3 Qe7 9.d5 Rd8 10.Rd1 cxd5 11.Bxd5 Na6 12.Bg2 e4 13.Qe3 Nb4 14.Bxe4 Nxe4 15.Qxe4 Qxe4 16.Nxe4 b5 17.Nf3 bxc4 18.bxc4 d5 19.Nc3 d4 20.Nd5 Nxd5 21.cxd5 Bb7 22.Rxd4 Bxd5 ½-½ (39) Keymer,V (2690)-Giri,A (2780) WR Chess Masters 2023 (7)]
8...Nbd7N
[8...Qa5 9.Nf3 Nbd7 10.0-0 Re8 11.b3 Nf8 12.dxe5 dxe5 13.Ne4 Qxd2 14.Nxf6+ gxf6 15.Rxd2 Bg4 16.Rfd1 Ne6 17.Nh4 Red8 18.Kf1 Rxd2 19.Rxd2 Rd8 20.Rxd8+ Nxd8 21.Be4 b6 22.Nf5 Kf8 23.Ne3 ½-½ (38) Luebcke,D (1462)-Kordts,W (1499) V0001 www.desc-online.de 1998]
[8...Qe7 9.b3 *(9.e3 Bg4 10.f3 Be6 11.d5 cxd5 12.Nxd5 Nxd5 13.cxd5 Bf5 14.Ne2 Rc8 15.Nc3 b5 16.a3 Na6 17.e4 Bd7 18.b4 Nc7 19.0-0 Rab8 20.Ne2 Na8 21.Rc1 Nb6*

22.Qe3 Nc4 23.Qxa7 Ra8 0-1 (55) Whitlock,H (2060)-Milos,G (2155) 94/273 Paks 2005 (2)*)* 9...h6 10.dxe5 dxe5 11.Qd6 Qxd6 12.Rxd6 Re8 13.Nf3 Bf5 14.0-0 Na6 15.Rfd1 Nc5 16.Nh4 Bh7 17.b4 Nce4 18.Nxe4 Nxe4 19.Bxe4 Bxe4 20.f3 Bh7 21.Rd7 g5 22.Ng2 a5 23.b5 1-0 (43) Glaser,G (2700)-Mladenov,P (2669) Lasker Memorial op 2001 (2.1)]

9.Nf3 -0.20/24

[9.b3 0.23/21 should be considered.]

9...e4= 10.Ng5 -0.59/25

[10.Nh4!= -0.15/26 might be stronger.]

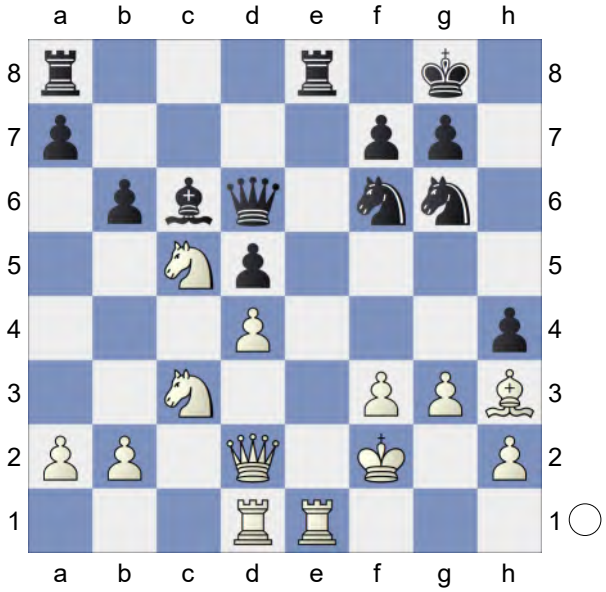
10...d5∓ 11.cxd5 cxd5 12.0-0 h6 13.Nh3 Re8 14.f3 exf3 -0.15/22

[14...e3∓ -0.72/24 15.Qd3 g6]

15.exf3= Nf8 16.Nf4 Qd6 17.Rfe1 With the idea Rxe8. **17...Bd7 18.Nd3 Ng6 19.Bf1 h5**

[19...Rxe1 simplifies 20.Rxe1 Re8 21.Kf2 Rxe1 22.Nxe1 Ne7]

20.Kf2 h4 21.Nc5 Bc6 22.Bh3 b6



White must now prevent ...Rxe1. **23.Nd3 Bd7 24.Bxd7 Qxd7**

[24...Rxe1 simplifies 25.Rxe1 Qxd7 26.Nf4 Rf8]

25.g4 Qd6 Inhibits Ne5. **26.Kg2 Nh7** 0.40/21

[26...b5= 0.00/22]

27.f4± Nf6 aiming for ...Rxe1. **28.f5! Nf8 29.Qf4** 0.08/21

[29.Qg5± 0.53/22 is more appropriate.]

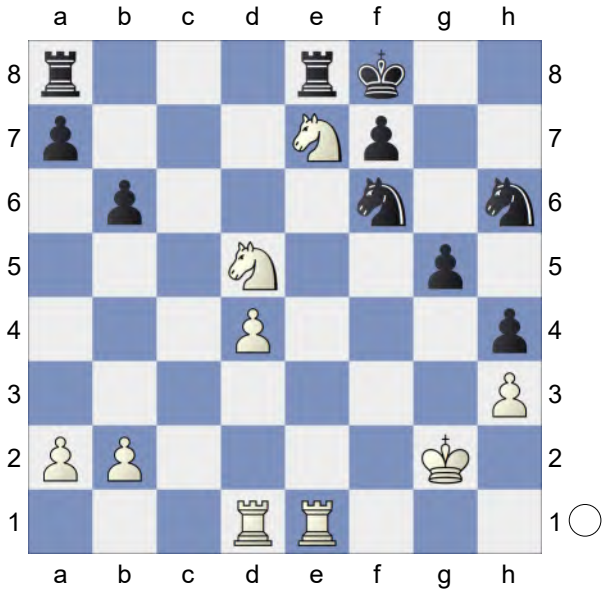
29...Qxf4= 30.Nxf4 Nxg4 31.Ncxd5 Nh7 32.h3 Nh6 33.f6 g5

[33...gxf6 simplifies 34.Nh5 Rxe1 35.Rxe1 Nf5]

34.Ne7+

[34.Nd3 simplifies Rad8 35.Rxe8+ Rxe8 36.Rc1]

34...Kf8 35.Nfd5 Rf1 is the strong threat. **35...Nxf6!**



Remove Defender, Deflection **36.Nc7** -0.36/25

[36.Nxf6= 0.00/27 Rxe7 37.Nh7+ Ke8 38.Nxg5 *(38.Rxe7+ Kxe7 39.Re1+ Kd6=)*]

36...Rxe7∓ 37.Nxa8 Nd5 ...Ne3+ would now be deadly. **38.Re5** -5.32/20

[38.Rxe7∓ -0.35/23 Kxe7 39.Rc1]

38...Rxe5 Remove Defender.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.27

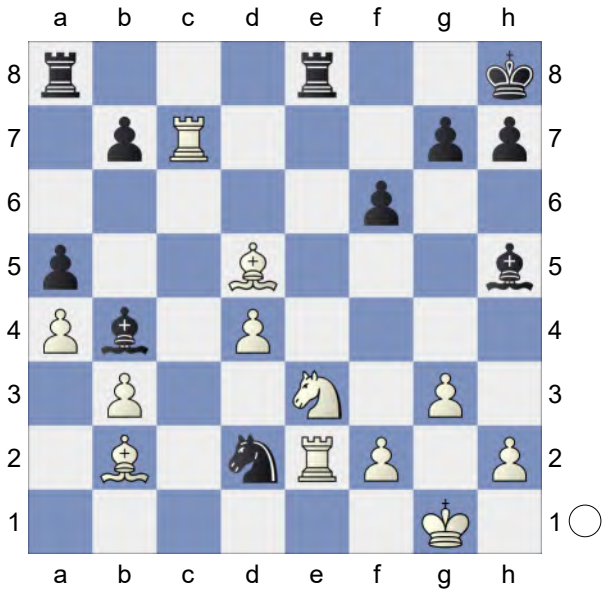
(precise) /Black=0.08 (flawless)
0-1

C42

□ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**
■ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (3.1) 17.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

C42: Petroff Defence: 3 Nxe5 and unusual White 3rd moves

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.Qe2 Qe7! 6.g3N
[6.d3 Nf6 7.Bg5 *(7.Nc3 Qxe2+ 8.Bxe2 g6 9.Bg5 Bg7 10.0-0-0 0-0 11.Rhe1 h6 12.Bh4 Nc6 13.d4 a6 14.a3 Bd7 15.d5 Na7 16.Nd4 Nc8 17.Nb3 g5 18.Bg3 Re8 19.Na5 b5 20.f3 Nh5 21.Bf2 Nf4* ½-½ (65) So,W (2799)-Caruana,F (2784) Candidates Tournament 2018 (8)*; 7.Be3 Nd5 8.Bg5 f6 9.Bd2 Nc6* Black vs. 1. e4-Petroff Qe2*)* 7...Qxe2+ *(7...Be6 8.Nc3 c6 9.0-0-0 Nbd7 10.Nd4 0-0-0 11.f4 h6 12.Bh4 g5 13.fxg5 Nh7 14.Nxe6 fxe6 15.Bf2 Qxg5+ 16.Kb1 Re8 17.g3 Qa5 18.d4 Bg7 19.Bg2 Nhf6 20.Rhe1 Re7 21.Bh3 Rhe8 22.Qc4* 0-1 (78) Conner,S (2179)-6.f3 ♘bd7 7.g4 62208 (2384) European Championship, Antalya 2004 (3)*; 7...Nbd7 8.Nc3 Qxe2+ 9.Bxe2 h6 10.Bf4 Nb6 11.0-0-0 Bd7 12.Rhe1 0-0-0 13.Nd2 g5 14.Bg3 Bg7 15.Nc4 Rde8 16.Nxb6+ axb6 17.Bf3 h5 18.h4 g4 19.Bd5 Bh6+ 20.Kb1 Rxe1 21.Rxe1 Bd2 22.Ne4* (45) Chapter-Games Chapter 11 Game 3*)* 8.Bxe2 Be7 9.Nc3 c6 10.0-0-0 Na6 11.Rhe1 Nc7 12.Ne4 Nxe4 13.dxe4 Bxg5+ 14.Nxg5 f6 15.Nf3 Ke7 16.Nd4 Be6 17.h4 Rad8 18.h5 h6 19.b3 Rhe8 20.Bc4 Bc8 (50) Del Real,C-Gons,G Open New York (USA) 1987]
6...Nf6 7.Qxe7+ Bxe7 8.Bg2 d5 9.0-0 0-0 10.d3 Bd6 11.Re1 c6 12.a4 a5 13.b3 Na6 14.Bb2 Nd7 15.Re2 Ndc5 16.Nc3 Bg4 17.Nd1 Rfe8 18.Ne3 Bd7 19.d4 Ne4 20.c4 Nb4 21.Rd1 f6 22.Ne1
[22.Nd2 is interesting. Nxf2 23.Kxf2 Nd3+ 24.Kf1]
22...Be6 23.Nd3 -0.27/22
[⌓23.f3 0.16/23 Ng5 24.c5]
23...Nxd3= 24.Rxd3 Bf7 0.42/23
[24...f5= -0.26/22]
25.Rd1 -0.08/26
[25.cxd5± 0.42/23 cxd5 26.f3]
25...Bb4 26.cxd5 cxd5 27.Rc1 Nd2 28.Rc7 Bh5 1.50/22
[28...Rad8= 0.04/24]
29.Bxd5+± Kh8

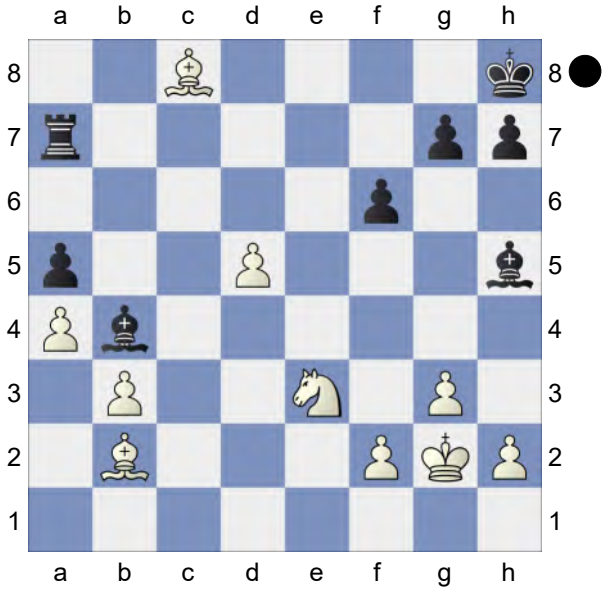


30.Rxd2 -0.24/22 **Bxd2= 31.Bxb7 Ra7**
[31...Rab8!? 32.Nf1 Re1∓]
32.d5! d6 is the strong threat. **32...Rb8!**
33.Rc8+
[Avoid the trap 33.Nc4? Raxb7 *(33...Rbxb7 34.Rc8+)* 34.Rxb7

Rxb7-+]

33...Rxc8 34.Bxc8 Strongly threatening d6. **34...Bb4 35.Kg2** -0.72/22

[35.Bd4= -0.16/23 remains equal. Rc7 36.Ba6]



35...Rc7 -0.03/23

[35...Bc5!∓ -0.72/22 aiming for ...Rc7. 36.Nf5 Bg6 *(36...Bf7 37.d6±)*]

36.Be6 Bf7 37.Bxf7 Rxf7 Endgame. KRB-KBN **38.Kf3 Kg8 39.Bd4 Rb7 40.Nc4 Rd7! 41.Ke4** Threatens to win with Bb6. **41...Re7+! 42.Kd3 Re1** 0.51/25

[Black should try 42...Rd7!= 0.00/24]

43.Bb6 0.00/43

[43.Be3!± 0.51/25]

43...Rd1+ The position is equal. **44.Ke4 Re1+! 45.Kd3**

[45.Kd4!? Rd1+□ 46.Ke4 Re1+ 47.Kf4=]

45...Rd1+ 46.Ke4 Re1+!

Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.19 (very precise)

½-½

A13

□ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**

■ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**

CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (3.2) 17.12.24

[Kitty Kat]

A13: English Opening: 1...e6

1.c4 e6 2.Nf3 d5 3.cxd5 exd5 4.g3 Nf6 5.Bg2 Bd6 6.0-0 0-0 7.Nc3

[7.b3 h6 8.Bb2 c6 9.Nc3 Bf5 10.d3 Re8 11.a3 a5 12.Ra2 Na6 13.Re1 Bh7 14.Ba1 Qc7 15.Qb1 Rad8 16.Rc1 Qe7 17.Bb2 Nc5 18.Qc2 Ne6 19.Na4 b5 20.Nc3 Bc5 21.Nd1 Rc8 0-1 (40) Mostbauer,F (2303)-Svane,R (2623) Titled Tuesday intern op 23rd May Early blitz 2023 (1)]

7...Re8 8.d3 h6 9.a3N The position is equal.

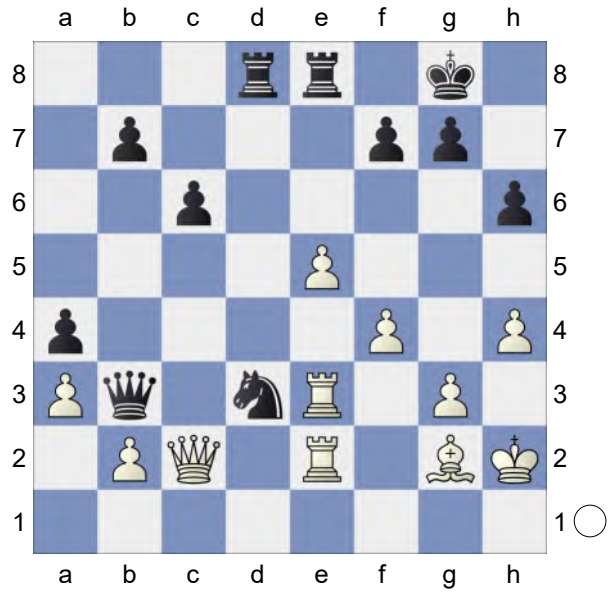
[9.Qc2 c5 10.e4 Nc6 11.Nxd5 Nxd5 12.exd5 Nb4 13.Qb3 Bf5 14.Ne1 Qc7 15.Qc4 Rab8 16.a3 b5 17.Qc3 Na6 18.Nc2 c4 19.dxc4 bxc4 20.Nd4 Bd3 21.Re1 Be5 22.Rxe5 Qxe5 23.Bf4 Qf6 1-0 (41) Aronian,L (2768)-Kamsky,G (2717) Jermuk FIDE GP 2009 (4) 24.Bxb8 Rxb8 25.b4 Nc7 26.Rc1 Re8 27.h3 Qe5 28.Qa1 Nxd5 29.Nb5 Nxb4 30.axb4 Qxb5 31.Qxa7 Qxb4 32.Bd5 Re7 33.Qd4 Qd2 34.Rxc4 Qe1+ 35.Kg2 Bf1+ 36.Kh2 Bxc4 37.Bxc4 Re4 38.Qd8+ Kh7 0-1 (41) Aronian,L (2750)-Kramnik,V (2759) 18th Amber Rapid 2009 (7) 39.Bd3 Qxf2+ 40.Kh1 Qe1+ 41.Kg2 Qd2+ 0-1 Aronian,L (2750)-Kramnik,V (2759) Nice (rapid) 105/5 2009]

9...a5 10.Qc2 Na6 0.25/18

[10...c5 -0.24/21 should be considered.]

11.e4= c6 12.Re1 And now e5 would

win. **12...Bg4 13.h3 Bxf3 14.Bxf3 Be5 15.Bg2 Bd4 16.Re2 Nc5 17.Bd2 Qb6 18.Rf1 Qb3 19.Qb1 dxe4 20.dxe4 Rad8** -0.15/19
[20...Nfd7∓ -0.52/20]
21.Be3 Bxc3 22.Bxc5 Qb5 23.Rc2 Qxc5 24.Rxc3 Qd4 25.Re1 Nd7 26.Rd3 Qb6 27.Qc2 Ne5 28.Rb3 Qa7 29.Kh2 a4 30.Rbe3 Qd4 31.f4 Nd3 32.R1e2 Qc5 33.e5 Black must now prevent Be4.
[33.Rxd3? too greedy. Qxc2 34.Rxd8 Qxe2-+]
33...Qb6? 4.82/21 Black is on the road to losing. **34.h4?** 0.75/21
[34.Rxd3+- 4.82/21 is more deadly. Rxd3 35.Qxd3]
34...Qb3? 3.49/18
[34...Qb5± 0.75/21 is a better defense.]

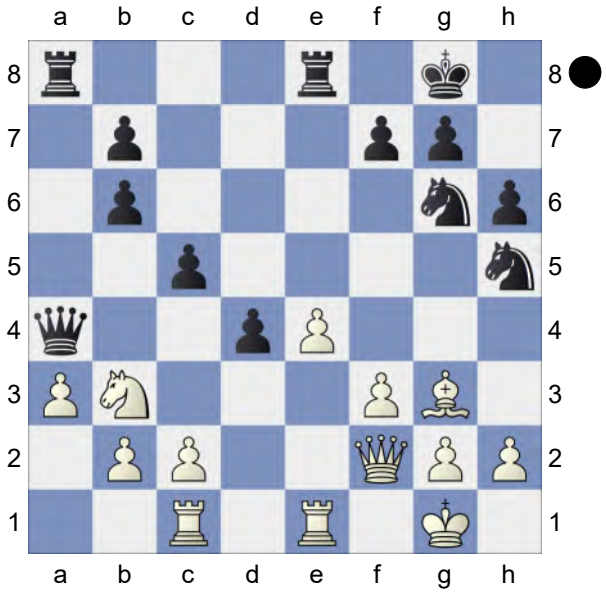


35.Be4!+- Qxc2 36.Rxc2 Nxe5 37.fxe5 Rd4 38.Bf3 g5 39.hxg5 hxg5 40.Rce2 g4 41.Be4 Kg7 42.Bc2 Rh8+ 43.Kg2 Rhd8 44.Re4
[Much less strong is 44.e6 fxe6 45.Rxe6 R8d7]
44...Rxe4 45.Bxe4 Endgame. KRB-KR. White is clearly winning. **45...Kh6 46.Kf2 Re8 47.Bc2 b5 48.Re4 Kg5 49.Bd1 Rd8 50.Bxg4 Rd2+ 51.Re2 Rd4 52.Bf3 c5 53.Rc2 c4 54.Bc6 c3 55.bxc3**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.31
1-0

C50
□ **Aronian,L** **2747**
■ **Keymer,Vincent** **2733**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (3.2) 17.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

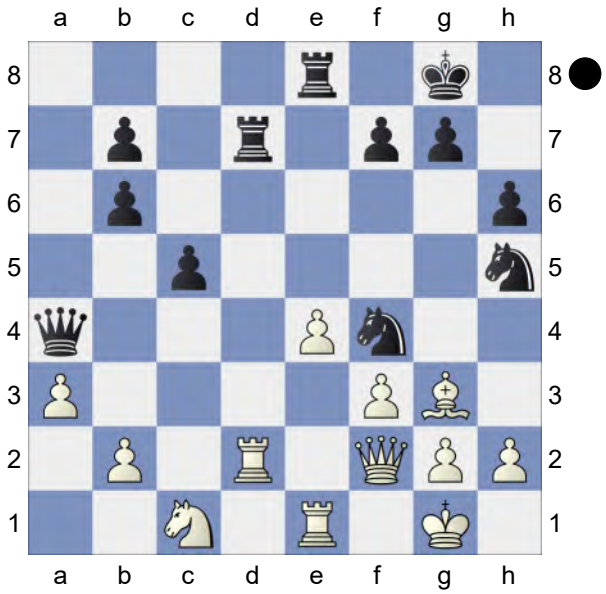
C50: Hungarian Defence and Giuoco Pianissimo
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Nc3 h6 6.Be3 Bb6 7.Nd5
[7.0-0 0-0 *(7...d6 8.h3 0-0 9.Qd2 Bxe3 10.fxe3 Na5 11.Bb3 Nxb3 12.axb3 Re8 13.Qf2 Be6 14.Nh4 Rf8 15.Nf5 Bxf5 16.Qxf5 Qc8 17.Qf3 a6 18.Ne2 Nh7 19.Ng3 Qe6 20.Nf5 Rae8 21.Rae1 Kh8 22.d4* 0-1 (70) Boabaid,J (1855)-Abdalla,U (1600) Pan American-ch U2000 2024 (3) *)* 8.Re1 d6 9.d4 exd4 10.Nxd4 Re8 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.Bf4 Ba5 13.e5 dxe5 14.Qxd8 Rxd8 15.Rxe5 Bb6 16.Re7 Rd4 17.Bxf7+ Kf8 18.Rae1 Rxf4 19.R1e2 Bxf2+ 20.Rxf2 Rxf2 21.Rxc7 Rxc2 1-0 (31) Appel,R (2481)-Pelletier,Y (2474) Bundesliga 0001 2000 (10.6)]
7...d6 8.Nxb6N -0.10/19
[8.a4 0.30/18 might be stronger.]
[8.0-0 0-0 9.h3 Na5 10.Bb3 Nxd5 11.Bxd5 c6 12.Bb3 Nxb3 13.axb3 Bc7 B5) Italian – 4.d3 h6 5.Nc3-Italian – 4.d3 h6 5.Nc3 #1]
8...axb6= 9.a3 0-0 Black has an edge.

10.0-0 Re8 11.Re1 Be6 12.Bb5 Bd7 13.Bd2 Ne7 14.Bxd7 Qxd7 15.d4 -0.72/22
[15.Nh4= 0.00/20]
15...exd4!∓ 16.Nxd4 c5! 17.Nb3 Ng6 18.f3 d5 19.Bc3 d4
[19...dxe4 20.Bxf6 Qxd1 21.Raxd1=]
20.Bd2 Qb5 21.Qe2 Qa4 22.Qf2 -1.17/20
[22.Qd1∓ -0.58/19]
22...Ne5 -0.17/18
[22...Nh5∓ -1.17/20 23.Rad1 Qc4]
23.Bf4!= Ng6↑ Black is pushing. **24.Bg3 Nh5 25.Rac1** -0.96/20
[25.Nc1= -0.13/21 remains equal.]



25...d3!∓ 26.Rcd1 Ngf4 27.Nc1 -1.45/21 Dodges Ne2+
[⌓27.Qd2 -0.84/21]
27...dxc2 Black is much more active. **28.Rd2 Rad8** ...Rxd2 would now be deadly. **29.Rxc2 Rd7** -1.27/21
[29...Rd4-+ -1.64/25 30.Rd2 Red8 31.Rxd4 Rxd4]
30.Rd2

(Diagram)



Red8 31.Rxd7 Rxd7 32.Bxf4 -2.61/17
[32.Qe3∓ -1.35/19 Rd1 33.b3 Rxe1+ *(33...Qxa3? 34.Rxd1 Ne6 35.Be5+-)* 34.Bxe1 Qxa3 35.Bd2]
32...Nxf4-+ 33.Qe3 Rd1 34.g3 Ne6 35.Kf2 Qc2+ Skewer, Double Attack
36.Ne2 Rxe1 37.Kxe1 Qxb2 Endgame. aiming for ...Nd4. KQN-KQN
38.f4? -4.69/19
[38.Qc3 -2.41/20 might work better. Qb1+ 39.Kf2]
38...Nd4 39.Nxd4 cxd4 KQ-KQ
[39...Qxd4? 40.Qxd4 cxd4 41.Kd2+-]
40.Qd3 Qxh2 41.e5 Qb2 42.Kd1 b5 Threatens to win with ...b4. **43.Qf5 Qb3+ 44.Kd2 Qc3+ 45.Ke2 Qc4+ 46.Kd2 Qc3+ 47.Ke2 g6 48.Qd7** -7.60/20
[⌓48.Qd3 -4.77/19]
48...Qxa3 49.Qxd4 Qa2+ 50.Ke1 Qc4 51.Qd8+ Kh7 52.Qe7 b6 53.f5 gxf5 54.Qd7 Qe6 55.Qxb5 f6 56.Kf2 fxe5 57.Qd3 Kg7 58.Qd8 Qf6 59.Qd7+ Qf7 60.Qd6 e4 61.Qxb6 Qe7 62.Qc6 h5 63.Qc8 Qf6 64.Qc7+ Kg6 65.Qf4 Qd4+ 66.Kg2 Qb2+ 67.Kh3 Qf6 Prevents Qd6. Strongly threatening ...

Qe6. **68.Qb8 Qe6** Against Qg8+ **69.Kg2 e3 70.Kf1 Qc4+ 71.Kg1 Qc1+ 72.Kg2 Qc6+ 73.Kg1 Qe6** Against Qg8+ **74.Kf1 Qc4+ 75.Kg2 Qc2+ 76.Kh3** -6.59/22

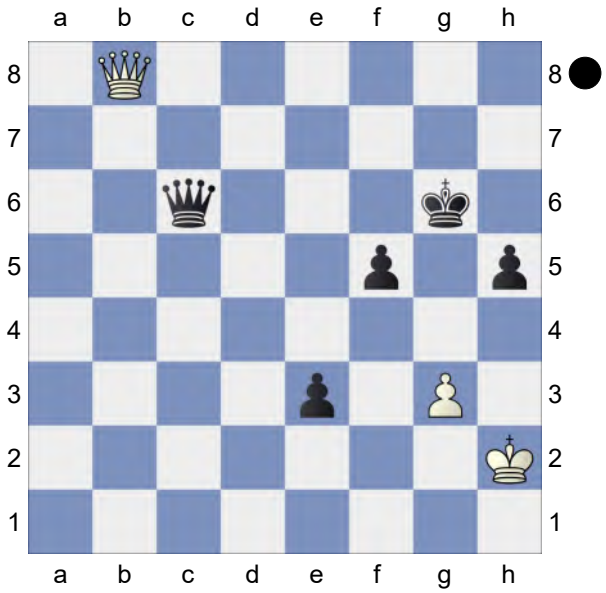
[⌓76.Kg1 -4.51/23 Qd1+ 77.Kh2]

76...Qc6? -0.05/21

[76...Qe4-+ -6.59/22 77.Qb6+ Kf7 78.Qc7+ Ke6 79.Qc8+ Kd5 80.Qa8+ Kc4 81.Qa6+ Kc3]

77.Kh2? -250.00/19

[77.Qg8+= -0.05/21 Kf6 78.Qh8+ Ke7 *(78...Ke6 79.Qh6+ Kd7 80.Qg7+ Kc8 81.Qf8+ Kd7 82.Qg7+ Kd6 83.Qh6+ Kc7 84.Qf4+ Kd7 85.Qd4+ Kc7 86.Qf4+ Kb7 87.Qb4+ Kc7 88.Qf4+=)* 79.Qh7+ Kd8 80.Qh8+ Qe8 81.Qf6+ Qe7 82.Qxf5]



77...h4? -0.04/22 **78.Qg8+!= Kf6 79.Qh8+ Ke7 80.Qxh4+ Qf6 81.Qb4+ Qd6 82.Qh4+ Kd7 83.Qg5?** -4.26/23

[83.Qa4+= 0.00/25 Ke7 84.Qa7+ Kf8 85.Qxe3]

83...e2? 0.00/38

[83...Qe5-+ -4.26/23 Hoping for ...e2. 84.Kg2 Kc6 85.Qg6+ Kb5]

84.Qg7+? -10.89/41

[84.Qe3= 0.00/38]

84...Qe7-+ 85.Qd4+ Ke8 86.Qh8+ Kd7 -67.57/23

[⌓86...Kf7 -250.00/30 87.Qh7+ Ke6 88.Qh6+ Kd7 89.Qd2+ Ke8]

87.Qd4+ Qd6? 0.00/43

[Better is 87...Ke8-+ -39.76/30 88.Qh8+ Kf7 89.Qh7+ Ke6 90.Qh6+ Kd7 91.Qd2+ Ke8 92.Qe1 Qe3 93.Kh1 Kf7 94.Kh2 Kf6 95.Kg2 Kg6 96.g4 f4 *(96...fxg4* gets mated. *97.Kh1 Qf3+ 98.Kg1 Kf7 99.Qf2 Ke8 100.Qxf3* Remove Defender *gxf3 101.Kf2 Kd7 102.Ke1 Ke6 103.Kf2 Kf5 104.Ke1 Kg4 105.Kd2 Kg3 106.Ke1 Kg2 107.Kd2 f2 108.Kxe2 f1Q+ 109.Kd2 Qc4 110.Ke1 Qd4 111.Ke2 Kg3 112.Ke1 Kf3 113.Kf1 Qf2#)* 97.Qb1+ Kh6 98.Qh1+ Kg7 99.Qe1 f3+ *(99...Qg3+ 100.Qxg3 fxg3 101.Kxg3 e1Q+ 102.Kh3 Qg1 103.Kh4 Kg6 104.Kh3 Qf2 105.g5 Kf5 106.g6 Kf4 107.g7 Qg3#)* 100.Kh2 f2 101.Qa1+ Kf7 102.Qa2+ Ke7 103.Qa7+ Qxa7 104.Kg3 Qe3+ *(104...e1B 105.Kh4 f1Q+ 106.Kh5 Qf7+ 107.Kh6 Bd2+ 108.g5 Qb6#)* 105.Kh4 Qh6+ *(105...f1B? 106.Kh5 Kf6 107.Kh4 Qh3#)* 106.Kg3 f1Q 107.g5 Qhh3#]

88.Qg7+= Kc6

[88...Ke6!? 89.Qh6+□ Kd7=]

89.Qc3+ Kd7 90.Qg7+ Kc8

[90...Ke6!? 91.Qh6+□ Kd7=]

91.Qh8+ Qd8

[91...Kd7!? 92.Qc3□ e1N 93.Qxe1 Qd4=]

92.Qc3+ Qc7 93.Qe1? -21.80/27

[93.Qh8+= 0.00/25 Kd7 94.Qg7+ Kc8 95.Qf8+ Kb7 96.Qb4+ Kc6 97.Qc4+ Kb6 98.Qb3+ *(98.Qxe2 Qh7+ 99.Kg1 Qd7=)* 98...Ka7

99.Qe3+ Kb8 100.Qe8+ *(100.Qxe2 Qh7+ 101.Kg1 Qg6=)* 100...Kb7 101.Qxe2]

93...Qe5-+ 94.Kg2 Qe3 White must now prevent ...Kd7. **95.Kh3**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.32/ Black=0.18 (very precise)

0-1

E32

□ **So,W** **2747**
■ **Carlsen,M** **2831**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (3.2) 17.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

E32: Nimzo-Indian: Classical (4 Qc2): 4... 0-0

Alterman,B: 'Inf 59/579' **1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 d6 5.Nf3**

[5.Bg5 Nbd7 6.e3 c5 7.dxc5 Nxc5 8.Nge2 Bd7 9.0-0-0 0-0 10.Kb1 Bc6 11.f3 a5 12.e4 Ncd7 13.a3 Qb6 14.Na4 Qa7 15.Nd4 Rfc8 16.Bxf6 Nxf6 17.Nxc6 Rxc6 18.axb4 axb4 19.e5 Nd5 1-0 (26) Alterman,B (2585)-Hansen,C (2590) 59/579 Groningen 1993]

[5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.Qxc3 0-0 7.f3 Nbd7 8.e4 c5 9.Be3 cxd4 10.Qxd4 Qa5+ 11.Kf2 Ne5 12.Ne2 Rd8 13.Nc3 Nc6 14.Qd2 d5 15.cxd5 exd5 16.b4 Nxb4 17.Nb5 Nc6 18.Qxa5 Nxa5 19.Nc7 Be6 1-0 (40) Xu,J (2474)-Lin,Y (2394) CHN-chT Div-A 2022 (10.3)]

5...Nbd7 6.e3N

[6.Bd2 b6 7.g3 Bb7 8.Bg2 0-0 9.a3 Bxc3 10.Bxc3 Qe7 11.0-0 Ne4 12.Ne1 f5 13.Nd3 Rab8 14.Be1 e5 15.d5 a5 16.b4 axb4 17.axb4 b5 18.f3 Nef6 19.e4 bxc4 20.Qxc4 Nb6 ½-½ (76) Mangini,J-Luckis,M Aguas de Sao Pedro 1941 (4) 21.Qb3 Qe8 22.Bd2 Qh5 23.h3 fxe4 24.fxe4 Qg6 25.Nf2 Nh5 26.Kh2 Rf7 27.Ng4 Rbf8 28.Rf3 Bc8 29.Raf1 Bxg4 30.Rxf7 Rxf7 31.Rxf7 Kxf7 32.hxg4 Qxg4 33.Qc3 Nd7 34.Qf3+ Ndf6 35.Be1 g5 ½-½ (76) Pearston,J-Ribeiro,F ICCF World Cup6-7 sf18 1990 (4)]

[6.Bg5 h6 7.Bh4 Bxc3+ 8.Qxc3 g5 9.Bg3 Ne4 10.Qc2 f5 11.e3 Ndf6 12.Bd3 Qe7 13.0-0-0 Bd7 14.Nd2 Nxg3 15.hxg3 0-0-0 16.Rhe1 Kb8 17.e4 fxe4 18.Nxe4 Qg7 19.Nxf6 Qxf6 20.Be4 Bc8 ½-½ (43) Bacrot-Speelman Germany (Game 39) 2001]

6...b6 7.Be2 Bb7 8.0-0 Bxc3 White is slightly better. **9.Qxc3 Ne4 10.Qc2 f5 11.d5** aiming for Nd4. **11...exd5** 1.68/20

[11...e5± 0.92/21]

12.Nd4+- dxc4 2.58/16

[12...Ne5 1.62/19 keeps fighting.]

13.Ne6!

[13.Nxf5 Qf6 14.Ng3 Nxg3 15.fxg3 Qe5=]

[13.Bxc4?! Rc8±]

13...Qc8 14.f3 1.37/19

[14.Qxc4 Ne5 15.Qxc7 *(15.Nxg7+ Ke7∓; 15.Nxc7+? Kd7-+)* 15...Qxe6±]

[14.Bxc4?! d5]

[14.Nxg7++- 2.44/19 Kd8 15.Bxc4 *(15.Nxf5 Ne5±)*]

14...Ke7 2.40/19

[14...Ne5± 1.37/19]

15.Nxg7 1.09/21

[15.Qxc4 Ne5 16.Qxc7+ Kxe6-+]

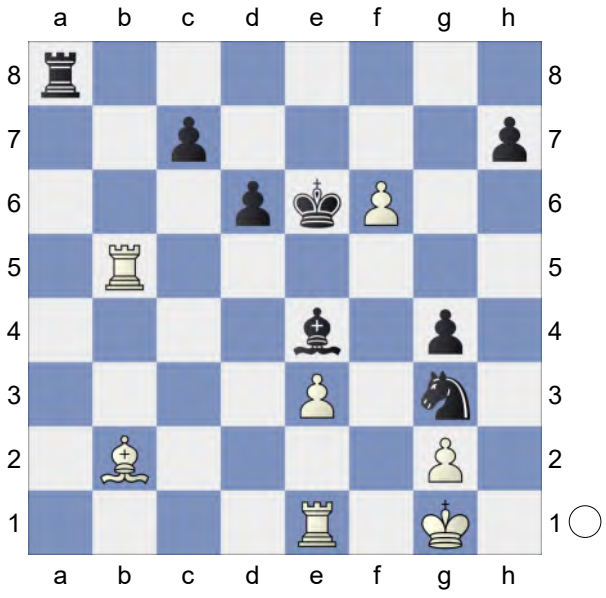
[15.Nd4!+- 2.40/19 and the rest is easy.]

15...Qf8 2.52/19

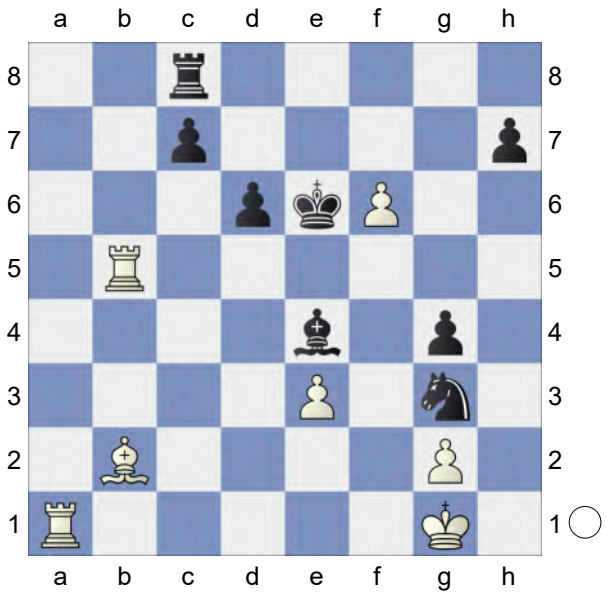
[15...Ne5± 1.09/21]

16.Nh5 Nec5 17.Qxc4 Ne5 18.Qh4+ Kd7 19.b4 Ne6 20.Bb2 And now Bxe5 would win. **20...Qe7 21.Qxe7+ Kxe7**

22.f4! Rhg8 23.Ng3!
[23.fxe5? Rxg2+ 24.Kh1 Rxe2+ 25.e4 Bxe4+-+ *(25...Rxb2? 26.exd6+ cxd6 27.Ng3-+; 25...Rxb2? 26.Ng3-+)*]
23...Rxg3 24.hxg3 Ng4 25.Bxg4 fxg4 26.f5 Ng5 27.b5 a6 28.a4 Ne4 29.a5 Black must now prevent axb6. **29...Nxg3** 2.53/22
[⌓29...axb5 1.87/22 30.axb6 cxb6 31.Rxa8 Bxa8]
30.Rfe1? 0.92/24
[30.f6++- 2.53/22 is the precise move to win. Kf7 31.Rfd1 bxa5 *(31...axb5? 32.axb6 cxb6 33.Rxa8+-)* 32.b6 *(32.Rxa5 axb5 33.Rxa8 Bxa8+-)*]
30...bxa5± 31.f6+
[31.Rxa5 h5 32.Kh2 Nxf5+-]
31...Ke6 1.40/23
[⌓31...Kf7 0.79/23 32.Rxa5 axb5 33.Rxa8 *(33.Rxb5 Be4±)* 33...Bxa8]
32.Rxa5 Hoping for e4! **32...axb5**
33.Rxb5
[33.Rxa8?! Bxa8 34.Ra1 Bd5=]
33...Be4



34.Ra1 0.23/20
[34.Kh2!± 1.52/27 Bc6 *(34...Nf5? 35.Rb4+-)* 35.Rg5]
34...Rc8 1.17/21
[34...Rxa1+= 0.23/20 keeps the balance. 35.Bxa1 h6]



35.Rg5 0.00/22
[35.Kh2!± 1.17/21 Nf5 36.Rb4]
35...h5 0.64/24
[35...Rb8!= 0.00/22 36.Rxg4 Rxb2 37.Rxg3 Kxf6]
36.Rg7 Nf5 Inhibits Re7+. **37.Rh7** Ra4 would now be deadly. **37...Rb8**
38.Bc3 c5 39.Kh2
[39.Rxh5 Ng3 40.Rh6 Ne2+ 41.Kf2 Nxc3 42.f7+ Kxf7 43.Ra7+ Kg8-+ *(43...Rb7 44.Rxb7+ Bxb7 45.Rh7+ Ke6 46.Rxb7±)*]
39...h4! 40.Raa7 -0.06/19
[40.f7± 0.63/20]
40...h3= 41.Rhe7+ Kd5 Dancing on a razor blade.
[41...Nxe7 42.Rxe7+ Kd5 *(42...Kf5? 43.f7+-)* 43.gxh3 gxh3 44.f7±]
42.f7? -2.70/21 **Nxe7-+**
[42...Nxe3? 43.Re8 *(43.gxh3 Nf1+ 44.Kg1 gxh3+-)* 43...Bg6 44.Rxb8+- *(44.f8R Bxe8 45.gxh3 Rb3∓; 44.f8Q Rxe8 45.Qf4 Bd3+-)*]

[42...hxg2 43.Rab7 Rf8 44.Re8±]
43.Rxe7?? -5.34/24
[43.Rb7∓ -1.38/18 nothing else works. Rxb7 *(43...g3+ 44.Kxh3 Rf8 45.Rxe7=)* 44.f8Q]
43...hxg2 (-> ...Rb1) **44.Rxe4** -10.66/24
[⌓44.Bb2 -5.13/20 Bf3 *(44...Rxb2?* perishes. *45.Rxe4* Promotion *Kxe4 46.f8Q+-; 44...g3+ 45.Kg1∓)* 45.e4+ Kc6 46.Ra7 g3+ *(46...Rxb2?* loses. *47.f8Q+-)* 47.Kg1 Rxb2 48.Ra6+ *(48.Ra1? Rb8-+)* 48...Kd7 49.Ra7+ Ke6 50.f8N+ Ke5 51.Nd7+ Kxe4 *(51...Kf4? 52.Ra1-+)* 52.Ra1]
44...Kxe4 45.Bg7 Kf3 46.Kg1 Rb1+ Never resign too early!
Weighted Error Value: White=0.73/ Black=0.21 (precise)
0-1

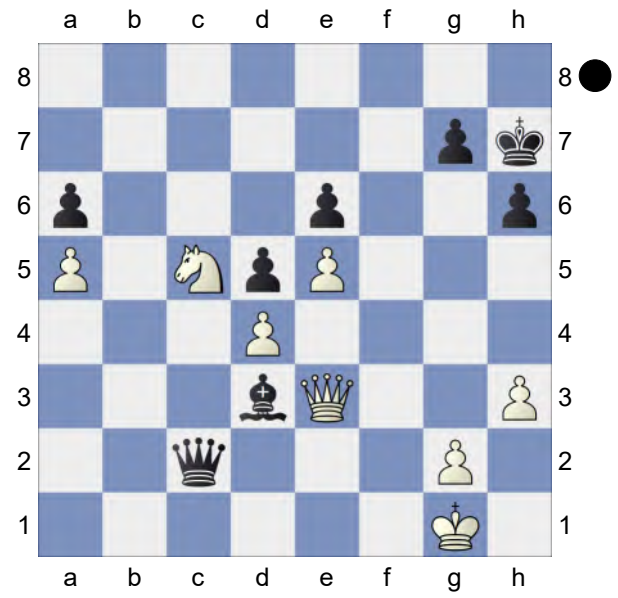
B30

□ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**
■ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (3.2) 17.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

B30: Sicilian: 2...Nc6 3 Bb5, lines without ...g6
Vasiukov,E: 'Inf 20/370' **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5**
[3.c4 e5 4.Nc3 g6 5.g3 Bg7 6.Bg2 Nge7 7.d3 d6 8.0-0 0-0 9.Be3 f5 10.Qd2 Nd4 11.Ne1 Rb8 12.f4 exf4 13.gxf4 b5 14.Nxb5 Nxb5 15.cxb5 Rxb5 16.Rb1 Bb7 17.b3 Qa8 0-1 (43) Cortes Ventura,J (2081)-Remmelgas,A (2200) Asia-ch Blitz U20 Girls 2023 (8)]
3...e6 4.0-0 Nge7 5.d4N
[5.c3 d5 6.exd5 Nxd5 7.d4 cxd4 8.cxd4 Be7 9.Nc3 0-0 10.Re1 Bd7 11.Nxd5 *(11.a3 Rc8 12.Bd3 Re8 13.Be4 Nxc3 14.bxc3 Bf6 15.Qd3 g6 16.Bh6 Qc7 17.c4 Red8 18.Rad1 Na5 19.c5 Bc6 20.h4 Bxe4 21.Qxe4 Rd5 22.Bf4 Qd8 23.Bd6 Nc4 24.Bg3 Rcxc5 25.dxc5 Rxd1* 1-0 (72) Grischuk,A (2709)-Radjabov,T (2728) World Blitz Rishon Le Zion ISR 2006 (2)*)* 11...exd5 12.Qb3 Nb4 13.Rxe7 Qxe7 14.Bxd7 Nxa2 15.Bf5 Nxc1 16.Rxc1 g6 17.Bh3 Rad8 18.g3 Rfe8 19.Ne5 Rd6 1-0 (30) Vasiukov,E-Timoscenko,G USSR 20/370 1975 20.Rc5 Rb6 21.Qc3 f6 22.Rc7 Qd6 23.Rd7 Qf8 24.Nd3 Rd8 25.Nc5 Qe8 26.Be6+ Kh8 27.Bf7 Qf8 28.Ne6 Rxd7 29.Nxf8 Rxf7 30.Qc8 1-0 8.♘a3 ♗e7 9.♘c2 ♗g5 10-Siemer,A ICCF GMN/032 email 2011]
5...cxd4 6.Nxd4 Ng6 7.Be3 Be7 8.c3 0-0 White is slightly better. **9.Be2 Nxd4 10.cxd4 d5 11.e5 f6 12.f4 fxe5 13.fxe5 Rxf1+ 14.Bxf1 Bg5 15.Qd2** 0.00/24
[15.Bxg5± 0.36/20 Qxg5 16.Qd2]
15...Bxe3+= 16.Qxe3 Bd7 17.Nd2 Qb6 18.Nb3 Rf8 0.55/22
[Black should try 18...Bb5= 0.00/18]
19.Bd3 0.04/19
[19.g3!± 0.55/22]
19...Nf4 The position is equal. **20.Rf1 Nxd3 21.Rxf8+ Kxf8 22.Qxd3** Endgame. KQB-KQN **22...Qb4 23.h3**
[23.Qxh7? Qe1#]
23...Kg8 24.Kh2 b6 25.a3 Qf8 26.Qe3 h6 27.Nd2 Qf5 28.Qc3 Bb5 29.Kg1 Bd3 30.a4 Kh7 31.b4 a6 32.a5 bxa5 33.bxa5 Bb5 34.Qe3 Qc2 35.Nb3 Bd3 36.Nc5

(Diagram)

Deflection, Double Attack **36...Bf5**



[Much worse is 36...Be4?! 37.Qf2 Qc1+ 38.Kh2±]

37.Nxa6 And now Nc5 would win.

37...Qa2

[37...Be4 38.Qf2 Qc3 39.Nc5 Qxa5 40.Nxe6±]

38.Nc5 Qxa5 39.g4 Be4 40.Nxe4

[40.Nxe6 keeps more tension. Qa1+ 41.Kf2 Qa2+ 42.Kg3]

40...dxe4 41.Qxe4+ KQ-KQ **41...Kg8 42.Qe3 Qa2 43.Qf2 Qb1+ 44.Kg2 Qe4+ 45.Kg3 Qd3+ 46.Kh2 Qe4 47.Qd2 Qf3 48.Qb2 Qf4+ 49.Kg2 Qe4+ 50.Kf2 Qf4+ 51.Kg2 Qe4+ 52.Kg1 Qe3+ 53.Kg2**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.04 (flawless)

½-½

C55

□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
■ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (3.3) 17.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

C55: Two Knights: 4 d3, 4 d4 exd4 5 e5 and Max Lange Attack

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Be7

[4...d5 5.exd5 Nxd5 6.0-0 Nb6 7.Bb5 Bd6 8.d4 e4 9.Re1 f5 10.Bg5 Qd7 11.c4 0-0 12.c5 exf3 13.cxb6 Qf7 14.Bxc6 bxc6 15.Qxf3 axb6 16.Nc3 f4 17.Qxc6 Bd7 18.Qd5 Qxd5 19.Nxd5 1-0 (41) Rojas Keim,L (2680)-Vasquez Bonifacio,L (2738) Metz op 28th 2010 (5.5)]

5.Nc3 0-0 6.a4 d6 7.Bd2N

[7.h3 Be6 8.Nd5 Bxd5 9.exd5 Nb4 10.c3 Nbxd5 11.Bxd5 Nxd5 12.Qb3 Nb6 13.a5 Nd7 14.Qxb7 Nc5 15.Qd5 Qc8 16.Nd2 c6 17.Qf3 Qa6 18.c4 Rab8 19.0-0 Ne6 20.Qd1 d5 21.Re1 f6 0-1 (86) Lucas,A (2415)-Ghosh,D (2553) 2023 Cannes (3.3)]

7...Bg4 8.h3 White is slightly better.

8...Bxf3 9.Qxf3 Nd4 Prevents Ne2

10.Qd1 c6 11.Ba2 a6 0.63/19

[11...Qc7= 0.27/22]

12.0-0± b5 13.Be3 0.22/19

[13.Ne2± 0.63/21]

13...Ne6= 14.Qf3 Qd7 15.h4 h5 16.Ne2 Ng4 17.Bd2 g6 0.37/19

[17...Bxh4?! 18.Qf5 Be7 *(18...bxa4? 19.Qxh5 Bxf2+ 20.Rxf2+-)* 19.Qxh5±]

[17...bxa4∓ -0.46/18 18.Bc3 Nc7 *(18...Bxh4 19.Qh3±)*]

18.Qh3 -0.46/19

[18.Qg3± 0.37/19]

18...d5∓

[18...bxa4 19.Bxe6 fxe6 20.f3±]

19.exd5 cxd5 20.Nc3! d4 0.97/21

[20...bxa4?! 21.Nxd5 Bd8 22.Bc3±]

[20...Nc7∓ -0.44/19 stays ahead.]

21.Nd5± Rab8 1.38/25 Dodges Nb6

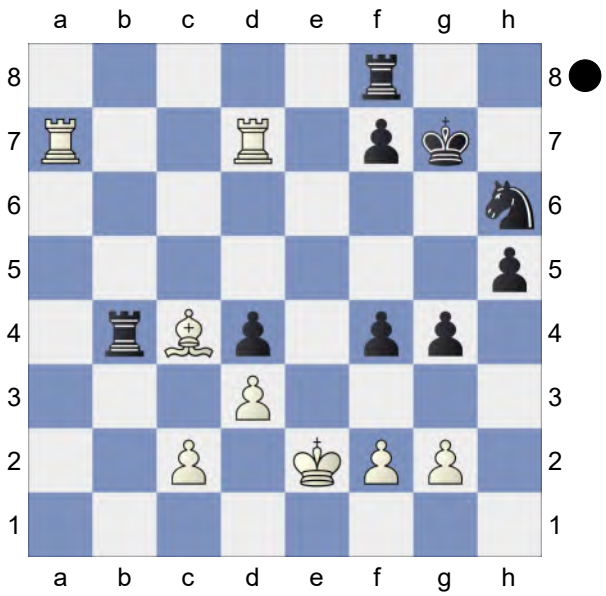
[21...Bd8!± 0.68/20]

22.axb5 Rxb5 23.Nxe7+ Qxe7 24.b4? -1.01/20

[24.Bxe6± 1.25/22 stays on course. fxe6 *(24...Qxe6 25.f3±)* 25.b3 *(25.Rxa6 Rxb2 26.f3 Rxc2±)*]
24...Nf4∓ 25.Bxf4 exf4 26.Bc4 Rxb4 -0.54/22
[26...Rf5!∓ -1.00/21 27.Rxa6 *(27.Bxa6 Qxb4 28.Bc4 Re8-+)* 27...Kg7]
27.Rxa6∓ Kg7 White must now prevent ...Re8. **28.Qf3 Qe5 29.Bb3 Nh6 30.Qc6 Qe7 31.Rfa1** Strongly threatening Bxf7!
[31.Qe4 simplifies Qxe4 32.dxe4 Ng4 33.Rd1]
31...Re8 (-> ...Qe1+!)
[31...Qxh4? 32.Bxf7 Ng4 *(32...Nxf7? 33.Qxg6+ Kh8 34.R6a5+-)* 33.Qxg6+ *(33.Bxg6? Qxf2+ 34.Kh1 Qh4+ 35.Kg1 Qh2+ 36.Kf1 Qh1+ 37.Ke2 f3+-+)* 33...Kh8 34.Qxh5+ Qxh5 35.Bxh5+-]
32.Rf1 Rf8 33.Qd6
[33.Rfa1 is interesting. Rfb8 34.Qd6 Qxh4 35.Qe5+]
33...Qxd6 34.Rxd6 Nf5 35.Rd7 Nxh4 36.Ra1 Nf5 37.Raa7 Nh6 38.Kf1 g5 39.Ke2 g4 40.Bc4 -0.79/20
[40.Ra5= 0.00/18]

(Diagram)

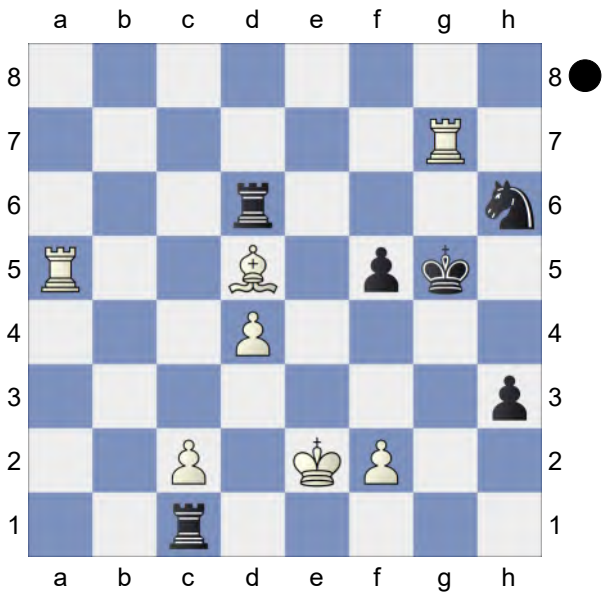
40...Rb2 0.04/20
[40...Rb1!∓ -0.79/20 Threatens to win with ...Re8+. 41.Rxd4 Re8+ 42.Kd2 f3 43.gxf3 Rf1]
41.Kd2!= Rb1 ...h4 is the strong threat.
42.Rxd4 Rg1 43.Bd5 h4 1.10/21
[43...f3= 0.08/20 remains equal. 44.gxf3 Rg2]
44.Rxf4± White is more active. **44...Kg6 45.Ra6+ f6 46.Ra5** 0.01/22
[White should try 46.Rc4± 0.91/19]



46...f5= 47.Rb4 Kg5? 1.70/20
[47...Ng8= 0.00/20]
48.Rb6? 0.00/23
[White should play 48.Ra7+- 1.70/20]
48...Rf6 1.29/26
[48...Ng8!= 0.00/23]
49.Rb7 0.00/25
[49.Rxf6± 1.29/26 Kxf6 50.Ra6+ Kg5 51.f4+ gxf3 52.Bxf3]
49...Rf1 50.Ke2 Rc1 51.Rc7 Rd6 52.Kd2 Rf1 53.Ke2 Rc1 54.d4? -1.69/22
[54.Kd2= 0.00/20 and White stays safe. Rf1 55.Ke2 Rc1]
54...h3-+ 55.gxh3 -2.20/18
[55.Bb7∓ -1.43/20]
55...gxh3 aiming for ...Rxd5! **56.Rg7+**

(Diagram)

Rg6?? 4.69/31
[56...Kf4!-+ -2.63/18 and all is fine. 57.Ba8 *(57.Kd2? Rxd5 58.Ra6 h2-+)* 57...h2 *(57...Rxc2+? 58.Kd1-+; 57...Rxd4? 58.Rh7-+)*]
57.Rxg6+? 0.00/24
[White has to play 57.f4+!+- 4.69/31 Kh5 58.Bf3+ Rg4 59.Ra6



(59.Bxg4+ Nxg4 60.Rxf5+ Kh4+-)]

57...Kxg6+- Endgame. KRB-KRN. The position is equal. **58.Ra6+ Kg5 59.f4+ Kh5! 60.c4 h2 61.c5 h1Q 62.Bxh1 Rxh1=** KRN-KR **63.Rf6** And now Kd2 would win. **63...Rc1 64.Kd2 Rc4! 65.Kd3 Rc1 66.c6 Ng8 67.Rxf5+ Kg6 68.Rg5+ Kf7 69.d5 Ne7 70.Kd4 Nxc6+ 71.dxc6 Rxc6** KR-KR **72.Ke4 Rc4+ 73.Kf3 Ra4 74.Re5 Ra3+ 75.Kg4 Ra6 76.Rb5 Rc6 77.Rb7+ Kf6 78.Rh7 Kg6** Prevents Rh6+. **79.Rh5 Ra6 80.f5+ Kg7 81.Kg5 Rb6 82.Rh1 Rb2 83.Rg1 Kf7 84.Rg4 Rc2 85.Ra4 Rg2+ 86.Kf4 Rf2+ 87.Ke4 Re2+ 88.Kd5 Rd2+ 89.Ke5 Re2+**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.40/ Black=0.34

½-½

B41

□ **So,W** **2747**

■ **Carlsen,M** **2831**

CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (3.3) 17.12.24

[Kitty Kat]

B41: Sicilian: Kan Variation: 5 c4

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.g3 d5 6.Nb3 Nf6 7.exd5 exd5 8.Bg2 White has an edge. **8...Nc6 9.0-0 Be7 10.Be3N**

[10.Nc3 Be6 11.Bg5 0-0 12.Rb1 d4 13.Ne2 h6 14.Bc1 Bc4 15.Bxc6 bxc6 16.Nbxd4 Qd7 17.b3 Bd5 18.Nc3 Rad8 19.Nxd5 Qxd5 20.Bb2 Bc5 21.c3 Ne4 22.c4 Qd7 23.Qc2 Rfe8 24.Rbd1 Qh3 0-1 (29) Teclaf,P (2553)-Carlsen,M (2832) FIDE World Rapid Team 2024 (9.1)]

10...0-0 11.Nc3 Be6 12.h3 Rc8 13.a3 -0.18/21

[13.Na4 0.27/19 feels stronger.]

13...Re8 14.Re1 h6 15.Kh2 -0.26/18

[⌓15.Na4 0.24/22]

15...Bd6= 16.Nd4 Nxd4 0.07/20

[16...Na5∓ -0.36/21 is more appropriate.]

17.Bxd4 Bc5 18.Ne2 Bxd4 19.Nxd4 Qb6 20.Re3 Bd7

[20...Qxb2? 21.Rb3+-]

21.Rb3 Qa7 22.Kg1 Ne4 23.Re3 Qb6 24.Rb1 Ng5 25.Rb3 Qa7

[25...Nxh3+? 26.Bxh3 Qd6 27.Nf5 Bxf5 28.Bxf5+-]

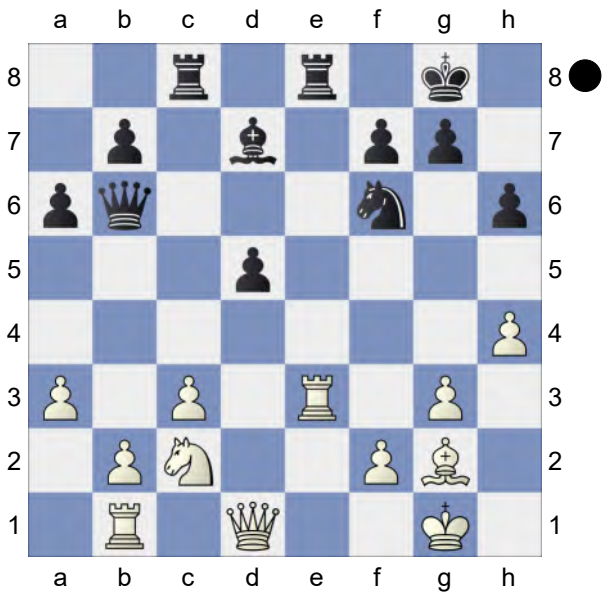
26.h4 Ne4

[26...Nh3+!? 27.Kf1 Re5=]

27.Re3 Qb6 28.Rb3 Qa7 29.Re3 Qb6 30.c3 Nf6 And now ...Rxe3 would win. **31.Nc2** -0.78/20

[31.Rxe8+= 0.23/22 remains equal. Rxe8 32.Qb3 Qxb3 33.Nxb3]

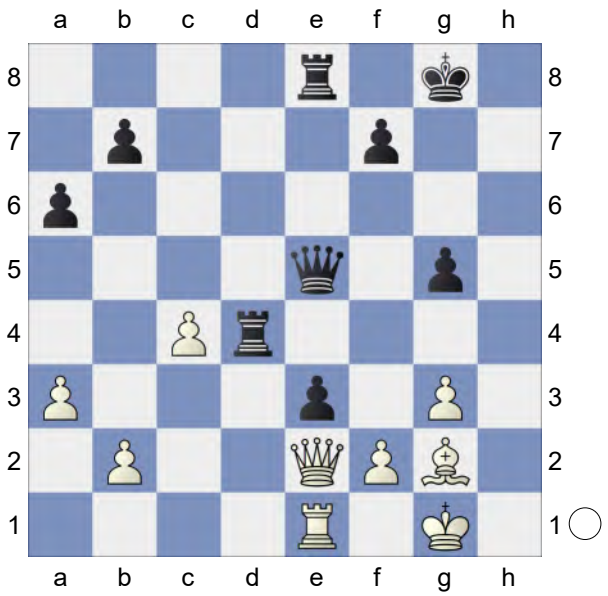
(Diagram)



31...Bf5!∓ Threatens to win with ...Rxe3. Black is more active. **32.Rf3** -1.81/20
[32.Rxe8+∓ -0.73/21 is the only way for White. Rxe8 33.a4]
32...Be4
[Inferior is 32...Bg4 33.Rxf6 Bxd1 34.Rxb6+-]
33.Rf4 -2.40/19
[33.Re3 -1.62/21 might work better.]
33...g5-+ 34.hxg5 hxg5 35.Rxe4 dxe4 36.Ne3 Rcd8 37.Qe2 -3.27/20
[⩲37.Qc2 -2.08/18]
37...Qb5 38.c4 Qe5 39.Re1 Rd3 40.Ng4? -4.27/21
[40.Qc2 -2.22/19]
40...Nxg4 41.Qxg4 Rd4
[41...Qxb2 42.Bxe4 Kf8 *(42...Qxa3? loses. 43.Qxg5+ Kf8 44.Qh6+ Ke7 45.Bxb7++-)* 43.Qxg5-+]
42.Qe2 e3

(Diagram)

Deflection **43.fxe3** -4.48/19
[⩲43.Qxe3 -2.97/20 Qxe3 44.fxe3]
43...Qxg3
Weighted Error Value: White=0.33/



Black=0.16 (very precise)
0-1

B31
□ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**
■ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (3.3) 17.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

B31: Sicilian: 2...Nc6 3 Bb5 g6
Vasiukov,E: 'Inf 20/370' **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5**
[3.c4 e5 4.Nc3 g6 5.g3 Bg7 6.Bg2 Nge7 7.d3 d6 8.0-0 0-0 9.Be3 f5 10.Qd2 Nd4 11.Ne1 Rb8 12.f4 exf4 13.gxf4 b5 14.Nxb5 Nxb5 15.cxb5 Rxb5 16.Rb1 Bb7 17.b3 Qa8 0-1 (43) Cortes Ventura,J (2081)-Remmelgas,A (2200) Asia-ch Blitz U20 Girls 2023 (8)]
3...g6N
[3...e6 4.d4 Nge7 5.c3 cxd4 6.cxd4 d5 7.exd5 Nxd5 8.0-0 Bd7 9.Nc3 Be7 10.Re1 0-0 11.a3 *(11.Nxd5 exd5 12.Qb3 Nb4 13.Rxe7 Qxe7 14.Bxd7 Nxa2 15.Bf5 Nxc1 16.Rxc1 g6 17.Bh3 Rad8 18.g3 Rfe8 19.Ne5*

Rd6 20.Rc5 Rb6 21.Qc3 f6 22.Rc7 Qd6 23.Rd7 Qf8 24.Nd3 Rd8 25.Nc5 Qe8 1-0 (30) Vasiukov,E-Timoscenko,G USSR 20/370 1975) 11...Rc8 12.Bd3 Re8 13.Be4 Nxc3 14.bxc3 Bf6 15.Qd3 g6 16.Bh6 Qc7 17.c4 Red8 18.Rad1 1-0 (72) Hanke, L (2709)-10. ♗c2 c5 11. ♘bd2_15267 (2728) NAICCC VIII 9600 1996 (2) Na5 19.c5 Bc6 20.h4 Bxe4 21.Qxe4 Rd5 22.Bf4 Qd8 23.Bd6 Nc4 24.Bg3 Rcxc5 25.dxc5 Rxd1 26.Qxc4 Rxe1+ 27.Nxe1 Qd1 28.Qf1 Qc1 29.a4 Qxc5 30.Nf3 Kg7 31.Qb5 Qxb5 32.axb5 a6 33.b6 1-0 (72) Grischuk,A (2709)-Radjabov, T (2728) World Blitz Rishon Le Zion ISR 2006 (2)]

4.0-0 Bg7 5.Re1 e5 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.d3 Qe7 8.a4 Nf6 9.a5 0-0 10.Be3 Bg4 White is slightly better. **11.Nbd2 Nd7 12.h3 Be6 13.Ng5 b6 14.Nxe6 Qxe6 15.Ra3 Rfd8 16.axb6 axb6 17.Qa1 Qe8 18.Ra7 Bf8 19.Qa2 Rxa7 20.Qxa7 Ra8 21.Qb7 Qc8 22.Qxc8** Deflection **22...Rxc8 23.Ra1** Prevents Ra8. **23...Bd6 24.Nc4 Bc7 25.Ra7 Kf8 26.g3** White is much more active.

[Reject 26.Bh6+ Ke7∓]

26...Ke7 27.Kg2 f6 28.f4 Ke6 29.Kf3 b5 30.Nd2 Bb6 31.Ra6 0.58/18

[White should try 31.f5+!± 1.11/19 Kd6 32.Ra1]

31...Rb8± 32.Nb3 f5? 2.69/19

[32...h5± 0.43/19]

33.exf5+? 0.37/19

[33.Nxc5+!+- 2.69/19 Nxc5 34.Bxc5 Bxc5 35.Rxc6+ Bd6 36.fxe5 Kxe5 37.d4+ Decoy Kxd4 *(37...Ke6? 38.e5+-* Pin *)* 38.Rxd6+ Ke5 39.Rd5+ Ke6 40.c3]

33...gxf5 34.fxe5 Nxe5+ 35.Ke2 Nd7 36.Nd2 Rg8 0.98/17

[36...Rb7± 0.47/19]

37.Bf2 0.27/22

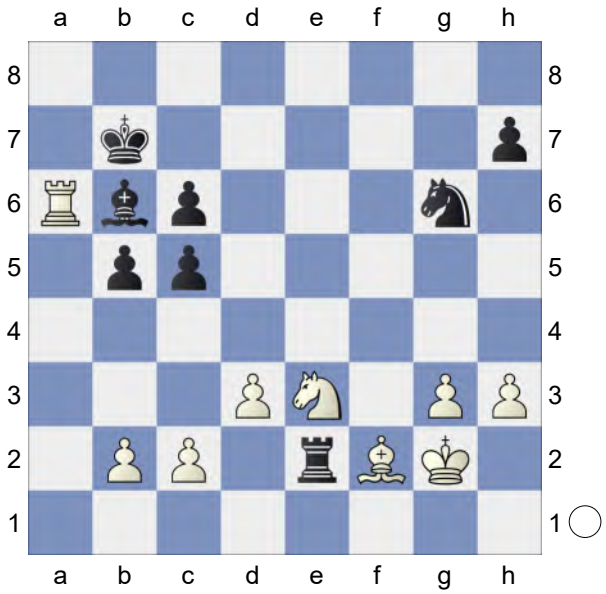
[37.Bf4± 0.98/17]

37...Kd6 38.Nf3 Kc7 39.Nh4 Re8+ 40.Kf3 0.18/24

[40.Kf1± 0.54/19]

40...Ne5+ 41.Kg2 Ng6 ...Nxh4+ is the strong threat. **42.Nxf5 Re2 43.Ne3 Kb7?** 4.89/23

[43...Ne5= 0.30/21 and Black is okay.]



Black is now going downhill.

44.Rxb6+!+- Kxb6

(Diagram)

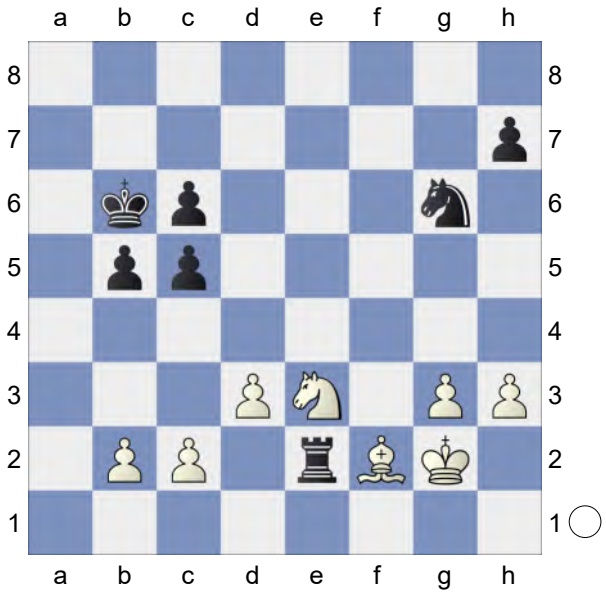
45.Kf1! Rxf2+

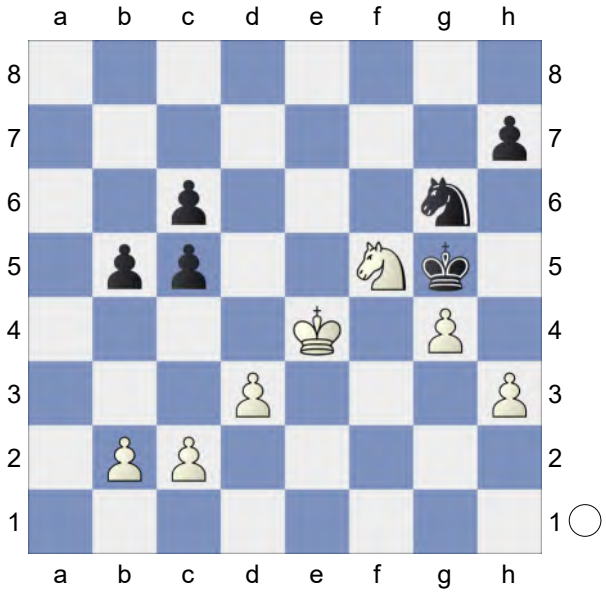
[But not 45...Rd2 46.Ke1 Rxf2 47.Kxf2+-]

46.Kxf2 Endgame. KN-KN **46...Kc7 47.Kf3 Kd6 48.Ke4 Ke6 49.g4 Kf6 50.Nf5 Kg5**

(Diagram)

51.Kf3 h5? 6.12/22





[51...Ne5+ 3.70/20 52.Ke4 Ng6]
52.gxh5 Kxh5 53.Kg3 Kg5 54.Nd6 Kh5 55.Nf7 c4 5.58/24
[55...Ne7 3.97/21 was necessary. 56.Nd8 c4 57.dxc4 bxc4]
56.dxc4 White is clearly winning.
56...bxc4 57.c3 c5 58.Kf3 Kh4 59.Ke4
Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.44
1-0

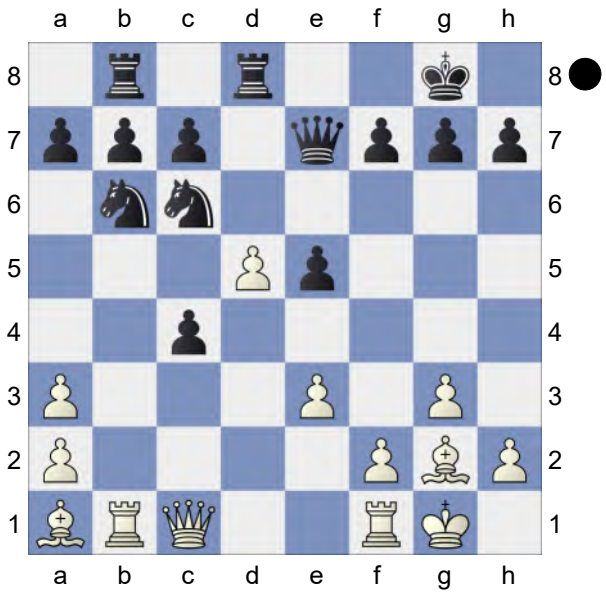
A14
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
■ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (4.1) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

E05: Open Catalan: 5 Nf3 Be7
Delgado,N: 'Inf 88/410' I wanted to provide an informational to show the most natural way to play against the Catalan and explain why we went for the rare sideline in this course. The following theory was taken from my Aggressive Queen's Gambit Declined course if you are thinking of playing this as an alternative. White has multiple options, some of which are quite theory-intense and easy to err in. We wanted something more points A to B and ideas based in this text. Let's get into some of the honeycomb variations to see what you would need to learn to play against the mainline Open Catalan with Black. Anytime it is noted that White has other options they are covered in detail in the aforementioned text. We stuck to the mainlines to give the reader an idea of the complexity of the mainline. **1.Nf3 d5 2.c4 e6 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 Be7 5.0-0 0-0 6.d4 dxc4 7.Na3N**
[7.Qa4 Bd7 8.Qxc4 Bc6 9.Nc3
A) 9...a6 10.a3 b5 11.Qd3 Bb7 12.Bg5 Nbd7 13.Rfd1 *(13.b4 a5 14.Qxb5 axb4 15.Qxb7 bxc3 16.Qc6 Rxa3 17.Rxa3 Bxa3 18.Qxc3 Be7 19.Qc6* Chapter-4... Be7,5 B) 7...Bd7*)* 13...h6 14.Bxf6 Nxf6 15.b4 Qd6 16.Ne5 Bxg2 17.Kxg2 Nd7 18.Nf3 Qb6 19.d5 Nf6 20.dxe6 fxe6 21.Ne5 Rad8 22.Qg6 Bd6 23.Nf3 Qb7 Borges Matos,J (2465)-Delgado Ramirez,N (2526) (ch) 88/410 Cuba

2003;
B) 9...Nbd7 10.Rd1 h6 11.Qd3 Bb4 12.a3 Bxc3 13.Qxc3 Rc8 14.a4 Be4 15.b4 Nd5 16.Qb3 Qe7 17.Ba3 Rfd8 18.Bf1 Bh7 19.Nd2 f5 20.Bg2 N7f6 21.e3 Qe8 1-0 (44) Miroshnichenko,E (2628)-Raees,A (2235) Al Ain Classic 2012 (1.1)]

[7.Qc2 a6 8.a4 Bd7 9.Qxc4 Bc6 10.Bg5 Nbd7 11.Nc3 a5 12.Rfe1 Nb6 13.Qd3 h6 14.Bd2 Nbd5 15.e4 Nb4 16.Qb1 b6 8) Catalan-Dessaules,P 1… e6 Against Everything 2024]

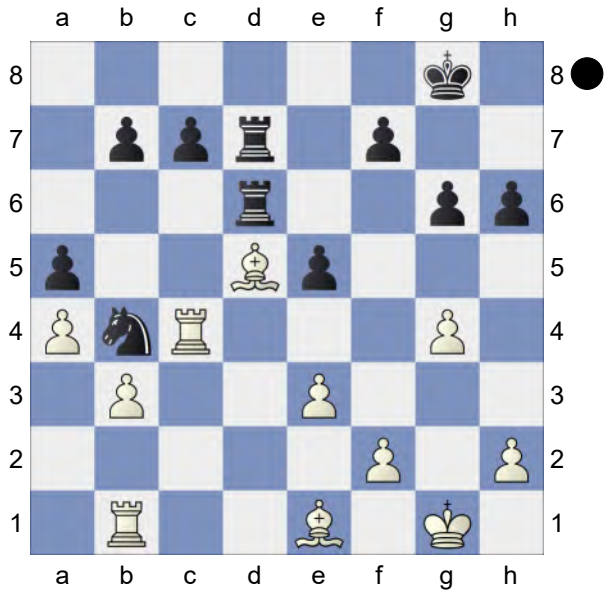
7...Bxa3 8.bxa3 Bd7 9.Ne5 Bc6 10.Nxc6 Nxc6 11.Bb2 Nd5 12.Rc1 Nb6 13.e3 Qe7 14.Rb1 Rfd8 15.Qc1 Rab8 16.Ba1 e5 17.d5



Deflection **17...Nxd5 18.Qxc4 Nb6 19.Qc2 Rd6 20.a4 Rbd8 21.Bc3** Wards off Rd2. White has compensation. **21...a5 22.Be4** A strong pair of Bishops. **22...h6 23.Rfc1 Qe6 24.Be1 g6 25.Qb3 Qxb3 26.axb3 Nd5 27.g4 R8d7 28.Rc4 Ncb4** 0.00/25

[28...Nde7∓ -0.45/21]

29.Bxd5=



Remove Defender. The position is equal. **29...Rxd5 30.Bxb4 axb4 31.Rxb4** Endgame. KRR-KRR **31...b6 32.Rb2 Rc5 33.Re4 f6 34.b4 Rc1+ 35.Kg2 Ra1 36.b5 Rc1** Dodges Rc2 **37.a5 bxa5 38.Ra4 Kf7 39.Rxa5 h5 40.b6 cxb6**

[40...hxg4? loses. 41.b7 Rdd1 42.Kg3 Rg1+ 43.Kh4+-]

41.Rxb6 Raa6 would now be deadly. **41...Rc4**

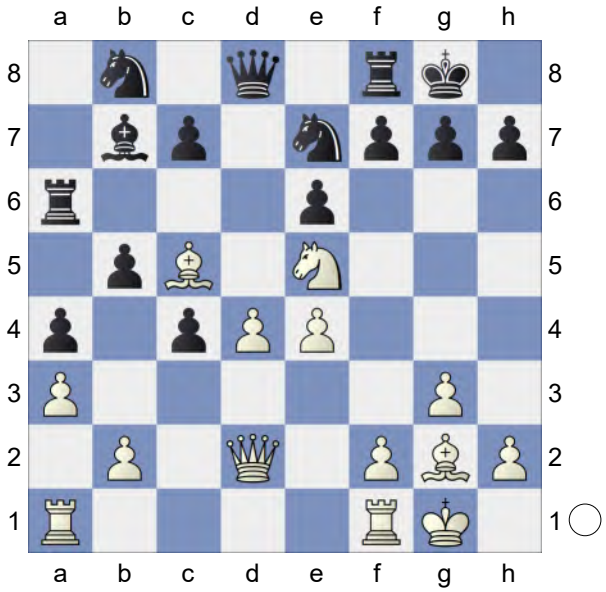
[41...hxg4 42.Raa6 f5 43.Rxg6]

42.gxh5 Hoping for Raa6. **42...Rg4+ 43.Kf3 gxh5 44.Raa6 Rg6 45.Ke4 Rg4+ 46.Kf3 Rg6 47.Ke4 Kg7 48.Kf5 Rf7 49.f4 exf4 50.exf4 h4 51.h3 Rg3 52.Rxf6** A balanced but interesting game. Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.05 (flawless)

½-½

E00
□ **So,W** **2747**
■ **Keymer,Vincent** **2733**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (4.1) 18.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

E01: Catalan: Early deviations
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 Bb4+ 4.Nd2 d5 5.Bg2 a5 6.Ngf3 dxc4
[6...a4 7.a3 Be7 8.0-0 Nc6 9.Qc2 0-0 10.Rd1 Bd7 11.e4 dxe4 12.Nxe4 Nxe4 13.Qxe4 Na5 14.Ne5 Be8 15.Be3 f6 16.Nd3 Qc8 17.Nf4 Bf7 18.Bh3 f5 19.Qc2 Nb3 20.Rab1 c6 21.Bf1 0-1 (37) Itgelt,K (2412)-Svane,F (2640) Olympiad-45 Budapest 2024 (4.15)]
7.a3
[7.0-0 b5 8.a3 Be7 9.a4 c6 10.Ne5 Nd5 11.Ne4 0-0 12.Nc3 Ba6 13.Qc2 Ra7 14.Rd1 Rb7 15.axb5 cxb5 16.Nxd5 exd5 17.e4 f6 18.Ng4 Nc6 19.exd5 Nb4 20.Qf5 Bd6 21.Ne3 Re7 1-0 (37) Shirov,A (2720)-Hracek,Z (2615) Ostrava m 1998 (4)]
7...Bxd2+ 8.Bxd2 White has an edge.
8...a4 9.0-0N
[9.e3 Ra7 10.Qe2 b5 11.e4 Bb7 12.Ne5 Ra6 13.Bc3 Nbd7 14.Rd1 0-0 15.0-0 Re8 16.f4 Qa8 17.Bb4 Nb6 18.Rfe1 Nc8 19.Ng4 Nxe4 20.Bxe4 Bxe4 21.Qxe4 Qxe4 22.Rxe4 f5 23.Re5 fxg4 ½-½ (34) 7.Nde2 --- (2214)-8....Bb7 9.--- (2128) 36/721 Indonesia 1983 24.d5 Ne7 25.dxe6 Nc6 26.Rxb5 Nxb4 27.Rxb4 Raxe6 28.Rxa4 Re2 29.Rxc4 Rxb2 30.Rxc7 h5 31.f5 Ra2 32.Ra7 Ree2 33.f6 Rg2+ 34.Kh1 ; -; 7.♘de2 --- (2214)-N,N (2128) 36/721 Indonesia 1983]
9...b5 10.Ne5 Ra6 11.Bb4 White has compensation. **11...Nd5 12.Bc5** -0.10/21 This pair of bishops is nice.
[⌓12.Bxd5! 0.30/21 Qxd5 13.e4 Qxe4 14.Re1]
12...Bb7 0.47/21
[12...Ne7= -0.10/21]
13.e4 Ne7 14.Qd2 Strongly threatening Qb4. Black is weak on the dark squares
14...0-0? 1.90/19
[Black should play 14...f6± 0.34/18]



Black cannot hold the game after this.
15.Qb4!↑ Keeping Black busy. **15...Re8** 2.55/20
[15...Nec6 1.85/21 was worth a try. 16.Nxc6 *(16.Qxb5 Ra5+-)* 16...Bxc6]
16.Qxb5 Qc8 17.Qxc4
[Don't play 17.Nxc4 Nd7 18.Bxe7 Rxe7+-]
17...Nd7 18.Nxd7 Qxd7 19.Rac1 h6 20.Rfd1 Nc8 21.Qd3 Ra8 22.h4 Nd6 23.Bb4 Rac8 24.Rc5 Red8 25.Rd2 Kh8 26.Kh2 Rb8 27.d5 exd5 28.exd5 Re8 4.06/21
[⌓28...Rbc8 2.74/18 29.Re2 Rb8]
29.Rdc2 Rbc8 30.Ba5 White is clearly winning. **30...Qg4 31.Rxc7**
[Much less strong is 31.Bxc7 Ne4

32.Qd4 Nf6 33.Qxg4 Nxg4+ 34.Kh3 Nf6+-]

31...Rxc7 32.Bxc7 Qd7 33.Bxd6 Qxd6 34.Qb5 Re7 35.Qxa4 g5 36.Qb4 Qxb4 37.axb4 gxh4 38.d6 hxg3+ 39.fxg3 Rd7 40.Bxb7 Rxb7 41.Rc7

Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.30

1-0

A06

□ **Carlsen,M** **2831**
■ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (4.1) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

A12: English Opening: 1...c6 with b3 by White

1.Nf3 d5 2.e3 Nf6 3.b3 g6

[3...Bg4 4.Bb2 Nbd7 5.h3 Bxf3 6.Qxf3 e6 7.g4 c6 8.Nc3 Nc5 9.d3 Qa5 10.a3 Qc7 11.g5 Ng8 12.h4 h6 13.Bh3 a5 14.d4 Nd7 15.e4 Ne7 16.0-0-0 Nb6 17.a4 hxg5 18.hxg5 1-0 (34) Bauer,C (2621)-Viennot,D (2331) Vaujany op-A 7th 2016 (8)]

[3...c5 4.Bb2 a6 5.Be2 Nc6 6.d4 e6 7.0-0 Be7 8.c4 0-0 9.Nbd2 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Nxd4 11.Bxd4 dxc4 12.Nxc4 b5 13.Bf3 Nd5 14.Nb6 Rb8 15.Nxd5 exd5 16.Qd2 Be6 17.Rac1 Qd7 18.Be5 0-1 (39) Oro,F (2211)-Rego,P (2305) Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Feb Late blitz 2023 (1)]

4.Bb2 Bg7 5.c4 c6N

[5...dxc4 6.Bxc4 0-0 7.0-0 a6 8.d4 Nbd7 9.Qc2 Nb6 10.Bd3 Nbd5 11.Qd2 Bf5 12.Bxf5 gxf5 13.Nc3 Nxc3 14.Qxc3 Nd5 15.Qc2 e6 16.Rac1 Kh8 17.Kh1 c6 18.Rg1 Qf6 19.Ba3 Rg8 20.Ne5 ½-½ (65) Zbarsky,Z-Lovegren Postal Chess Club J12 1964 (19) Rad8 21.g4 Bf8 22.Bxf8 Rgxf8 23.gxf5 exf5 24.Rg3 Qe6 25.Rh3 Rg8 26.Qe2 Rg7 27.Rg1 Rxg1+ 28.Kxg1 Rg8+ 29.Rg3 f6 30.Nd3 f4 31.Rxg8+ Qxg8+ 32.Kf1 fxe3 33.fxe3 Qe6 34.e4 Qh3+ 35.Ke1 ½-½ (65) Tartakower,S-Stoltz,G Staunton Memorial 1946 (19)]

6.Be2 0-0 7.0-0 Bg4 8.h3 Bxf3 9.Bxf3 Re8 10.d4 e6 White is slightly better. **11.Nc3 a5 12.Qc2 Na6 13.Rfd1 Qe7 14.a3 Rab8 15.Rac1 b5 16.Ne2 Nd7 17.cxd5 cxd5 18.Nf4 b4** 0.91/21

[18...a4!= 0.18/19]

19.a4± Nb6 20.Qe2 Qa7 21.Nd3 0.52/21

[White should try 21.Bg4± 0.96/17]

21...Nd7 1.02/21

[21...Rbc8± 0.52/21]

22.Rc6 0.42/20

[22.e4± 1.02/21]

22...Rec8 0.93/19

[22...Rbc8!± 0.42/20 23.Rc2 Rxc2 24.Qxc2 Nb6]

23.Rdc1↑ White is on the roll. White is more active. White stays focused until the end. **23...Rxc6 24.Rxc6 Qb7 25.Qc2 Rd8**

(Diagram)

...Ndb8 would now be deadly. **26.Qc1! Ndb8** 1.41/21

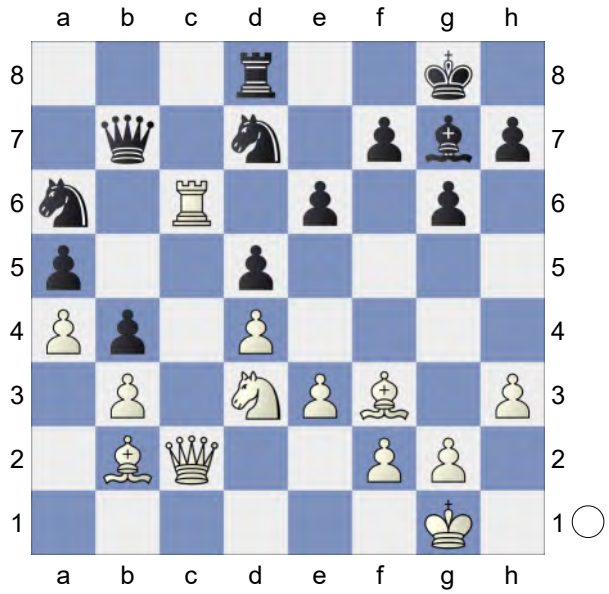
[⌓26...Bf8 0.87/20]

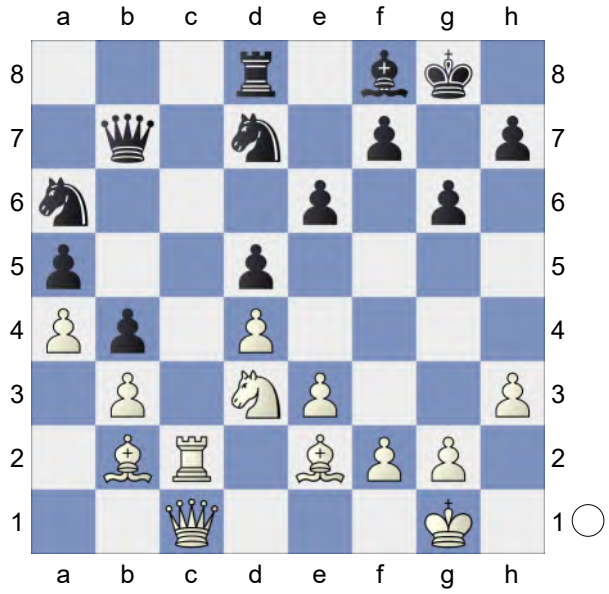
27.Rc2 Nd7 1.73/24

[27...Rd7± 1.03/19]

28.Be2+- Bf8 2.16/18

[28...Bf6± 1.51/20 29.Ne5 Ndb8]





29.Ne5! Ndb8 Black is weak on the light squares **30.h4 Bd6** 2.43/23
[⌓30...f6 1.96/19]
31.h5 Nc7 2.38/18
[⌓31...f6 1.92/18]
32.e4 Bxe5? 4.09/20
[32...Ne8 2.08/18 33.exd5 Bxe5]
33.dxe5 Ne8 34.Qg5 Rc8 35.Rxc8 Qxc8 36.exd5 exd5 37.Bb5 Nc6 6.37/21
[⌓37...d4 4.47/20 38.Bxd4 Nc7]
38.h6 3.08/21
[⌓38.Qc1 6.37/21]
38...Qe6? 5.10/20
[38...Kf8 3.08/21 was necessary. 39.Qe3 Ne7]
39.Qc1 Na7 40.Qc5 Nc8 41.g3 g5 42.Qe3 f6 43.Qd4 Nc7? 6.74/19
[43...fxe5 3.94/19 44.Qe3 *(44.Qxe5 Qxe5 45.Bxe5 Ncd6+-)* 44...g4 45.Bxe5 *(45.Qg5+ Kf7+-)* 45...Ncd6 46.Qg5+ Qg6]
44.exf6 Intending f7+! and mate. White is clearly winning. **44...Nxb5 45.f7+** Decoy **45...Kxf7 46.Qg7+ Ke8** And now ...Qe1+ would win. **47.Qh8+ Kd7** Threatens to win with ...Qe1+. **48.Qxh7+ Ne7 49.axb5 Qe2 50.Bf6 a4 51.Qxe7+**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.28 (precise) /Black=0.52
1-0

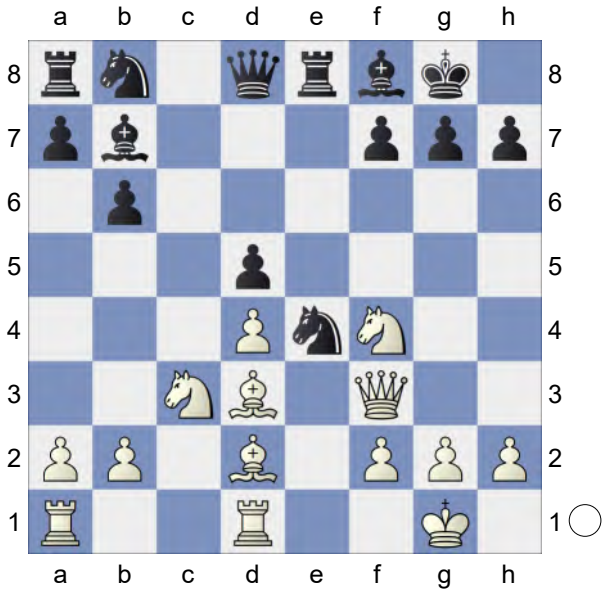
E48
□ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**
■ **Aronian,L** **2747**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (4.1) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

E48: Nimzo-Indian: Rubinstein: 5 Bd3 d5 including 6 Ne2, but excluding 6 a3
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0 5.Bd3 d5 6.cxd5 exd5 7.Nge2 Re8 8.0-0 Bf8 9.Bd2 b6 10.Nf4 Bb7
[10...c6 11.Re1 Ba6 12.Bc2 Nbd7 13.Qf3 b5 14.a3 Bb7 15.Rad1 a5 16.Bc1 g6 17.e4 b4 18.Na4 dxe4 19.Bxe4 Qe7 20.Qd3 Nxe4 21.f3 f5 22.fxe4 fxe4 23.Qg3 Bg7 24.Kh1 Rad8 25.axb4 0-1 (50) Pantzar,M (2450)-Aryan,C (2620) EU-Cup 39th Vrnjacka Banja 2024 (4.2)]
11.Qf3 The position is equal. **11...c5**
12.Rfd1N
[12.Rac1 Nc6 *(12...Na6 13.Rfd1*

cxd4 14.exd4 Nc7 15.Bc2 Bd6 16.Be3 Ne4 17.Ba4 Re7 18.Bb3 Qd7 19.h3 Nxc3 20.bxc3 Bc6 21.Nh5 Re6 22.Bc2 Ba4 23.c4 dxc4 24.d5 Rg6 25.Bd4 Bxc2 26.Rxc2 Qa4 27.Rcc1 1-0 (44) Molina,R (2832)-10. ♗a3 b6 11.ba5 ♘h5 1525 (2781) RLPF-ch U13 Wolfstein 1994 (8) *)* 13.Ncxd5 Nxd5 14.Nxd5 Ne5 15.dxe5 Qxd5 16.Qxd5 Bxd5 17.Bc3 Bxa2 Giri,A (2552)-Skarke,H (2544) USSR (ch) 22/227 1976]

12...cxd4 13.exd4 Ne4 0.93/18

[13...Nc6= 0.23/18 remains equal.]



14.Rac1 0.51/21

[White should play 14.Be3!± 0.93/18]

14...g6? 3.33/19

[14...Nxd2± 0.51/21 15.Rxd2 Nc6 16.Nfxd5 Nb4]

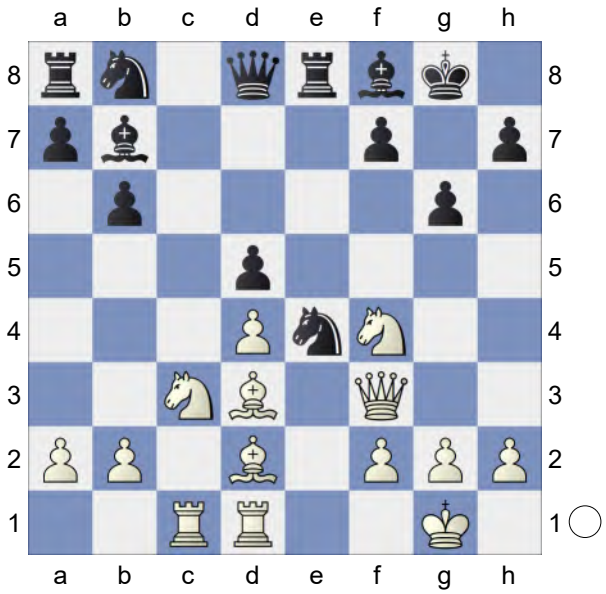
(Diagram)

15.Nfxd5!+- Bxd5

[15...Nxc3 16.Nf6+]

16.Nxd5

[16.Nxe4 Nd7± *(16...Bxa2? 17.Nf6+*



Discovered Attack, Double Attack *Kh8 18.Nxe8+-)*]

[16.Bxe4 Bxe4 17.Nxe4 Nd7+-]

16...Qxd5 17.Re1 Qxd4

[17...f5? 18.Bc4+-]

18.Rxe4

[Don't play 18.Bxe4 Qxd2 19.Red1 Qb4 20.Bxa8 Nd7+-]

18...Rxe4 19.Qxe4 Qxb2 20.Rd1

[Weaker is 20.Qxa8 Qxd2 21.Rf1 Qxd3±]

20...Nc6 21.Qxc6 Rd8 22.Qc2 Qa3 23.Be3 b5 24.Bxb5 White is clearly winning. **24...Rxd1+ 25.Qxd1 Qxa2 26.g3 a5** 8.40/20

[⌓26...Qe6 4.74/21 27.Bxa7 Qe5]

27.Qd8 Qb1+ 28.Bf1 Qb4 Prevents Bc5 **29.Bh6 a4 30.Qxf8+ Qxf8 31.Bxf8 Kxf8** Endgame. KB-KP **32.Bc4 f6 33.Kf1 Ke7 34.Ke2 Kd6 35.Kd3 Ke5 36.f3 g5 37.Ke3 a3 38.Ba2 h5 39.Bb3 Kf5 40.Kd4 h4 41.Kd5 Kg6 42.Ke6 f5 43.Ke5** Black got outplayed after the opening.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.24 (precise) /Black=0.56

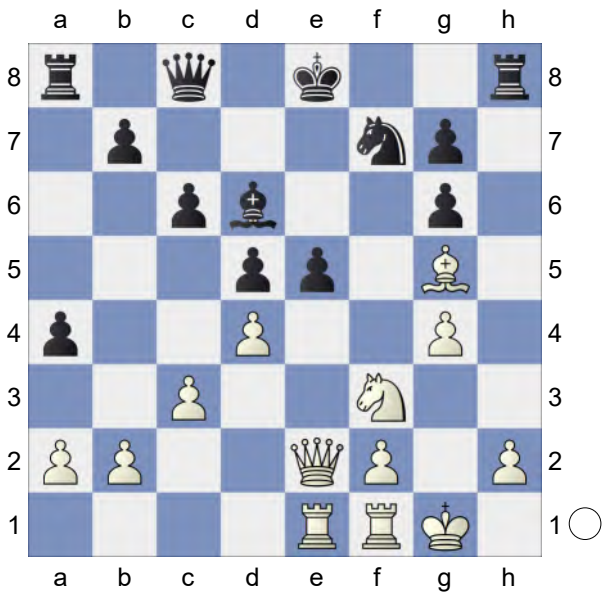
1-0

B12
□ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**
■ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (4.2) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

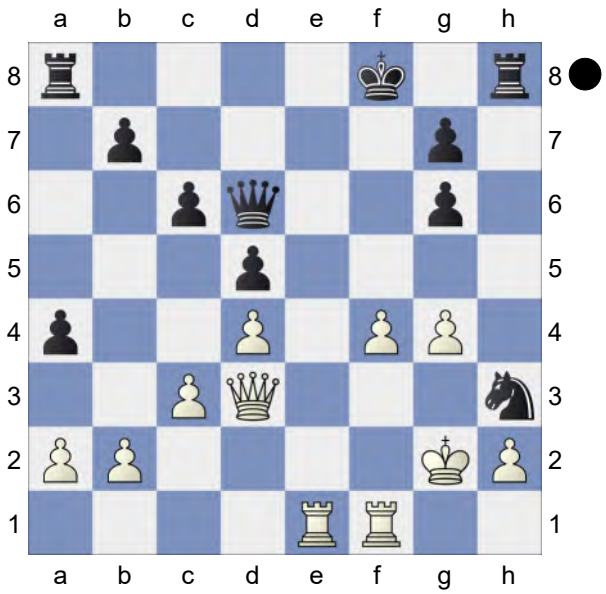
B12: Caro-Kann: Advance Variation
The next couple of model games will be dedicated to the positions with a pawn pawn on e5. The first example is a very nice model game in which you can see Black's light-square strategy in action. R. Scherbakov: 'Alexander Fier crushed Black's unusual set-up with some concrete and energetic manoeuvres. Yet perhaps this opening line deserves more attention.' **1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Nf3 e6 5.Be2 Nd7 6.0-0 a5 7.c3**
[7.a4 f6 8.Bf4 fxe5 9.dxe5 Bc5 10.Nbd2 Ne7 11.Nb3 0-0 12.Nxc5 Nxc5 13.Nd4 Bd3 14.Be3 Bxe2 15.Qxe2 Qd7 16.c3 b6 17.Qc2 Na6 18.Rad1 c5 19.Nb5 Nc7 20.Nd6 Nf5 21.Nxf5 exf5 0-1 (49) Ganguly,S (2587)-Marcelin,C (2443) FRA-chT Top 16 GpB 2023 (4.2)]
7...a4 8.Ne1N
[8.Nbd2 h6 *(8...Ne7 9.Nh4 Bg6 10.Nxg6 hxg6 11.Nf3 Nf5 12.g3 Qb6 13.Rb1 c5 14.c4 Qc6 15.cxd5 Qxd5 16.dxc5 Qxc5 17.b4 Qb6 18.Qd3 Be7 19.Rd1 Qc6 20.Bf4 Rd8 21.Rbc1 Qa6 22.Qe4 Qb6 23.g4* 1-0 (27) Fier,A (2595)-Guerra Tulcan,L (2343) Cochabamba 105/278 2009*; 8...a3 9.b4 f6 10.exf6 Ngxf6 11.Nh4 Bd6 12.Nxf5 exf5 13.Bd3 Ne4 14.Bxe4 fxe4 15.Qg4 Nf6 16.Qxg7 Bxh2+ 17.Kxh2 Rg8 18.Qxb7 Ng4+ 19.Kg1 Qh4 20.Nf3 exf3 21.Bf4 Ne3 22.Bg3 Rxg3 23.fxg3* ½-½ (38) Schmucker,R (2597)-Comp Fritz SSS (2381) Baku FIDE GP 2008 (1)*)* 9.Re1 Ne7 10.Nf1 c5 11.Ne3 Be4 12.c4 Qc7 13.dxc5 Qxc5 14.Nd4 Nxe5 15.cxd5 Bxd5 16.Nxd5 Nxd5 17.Bb5+ Nc6 18.b4 axb3 19.Bb2 Rxa2 20.Bxc6+ bxc6 21.Qxb3 Rxa1 22.Qb8+ Kd7 0-1 (77) De Silva,L (2407)-Ashraf,A (2352) Abu Dhabi op 29th 2023 (7)]
8...f6 White is slightly better. **9.Bd3** -0.47/20
[9.f4± 0.49/17]
9...Ne7 0.99/20
[9...fxe5∓ -0.47/20 keeps the upper hand. 10.Bxf5 exf5]
10.exf6± Nxf6 11.Bg5 0.61/22
[White should try 11.Qe2± 1.06/19]
11...Ne4 Repels Nd2 **12.Bxe4 Bxe4** 1.31/19
[⌓12...dxe4 0.84/21 13.Nd2 a3]
13.Nd2 Bf5 14.Qh5+ Bg6 15.Qe2 Qc8 16.Nd3 Nf5 17.Rae1 Black must now prevent g4! **17...Bd6 18.g4 Nh6 19.Ne5** Threatens to win with Nxg6.
[19.Qxe6+?! Qxe6 20.Rxe6+ Kd7 21.Rxd6+ Kxd6 22.Bf4+ Ke7 23.Re1+ Kf8=]
19...Nf7 20.Nxg6 hxg6 21.Nf3 -0.03/21
[21.Qxe6+± 1.12/19 Qxe6 22.Rxe6+ Kf8 23.Rxg6]
21...e5

(Diagram)

Deflection **22.Nxe5** -1.34/20
[22.dxe5= 0.00/27 Qxg4+ 23.Kh1]
22...Nxg5∓ 23.Nc4+
[23.Nxc6+? Kf7 24.Ne5+ Bxe5 25.dxe5 a3-+]
23...Kf8 24.Nxd6 Qd7↑ Dodges Qe7+. Black is on the roll. Really sharp!
[24...Qc7 25.Qe8+ Rxe8 26.Rxe8#]
25.f4 Nh3+ 26.Kg2 Qxd6 27.Qd3?



-3.65/21
[27.Qe5∓ -0.97/22 keeps fighting. Qd7 28.Re3 Qxg4+ 29.Rg3]

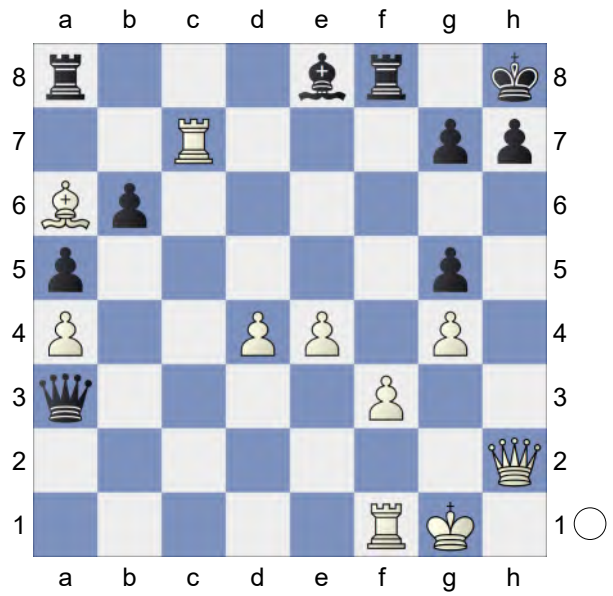


27...Kg8-+
[27...Nxf4+ 28.Rxf4+ Qxf4 29.Rf1∓]
28.Re5 Rf8 29.Qe3 Qf6 -1.90/20
[⌓29...Qd7 -3.42/20 30.Qg3 Qf7]
30.g5 Nxf4+? 0.00/28
[30...Qf7-+ -2.19/22 31.f5 Rh5 *(31...gxf5 32.Rexf5 Qxf5 33.Rxf5=)*]
31.Kh1!= Qf7 32.Rf3 -5.47/19
Dodges Rh3
[Only move: 32.Re7∓ -0.33/19 Qf5 33.Rxf4 Qb1+ *(33...Qxf4 34.Qe6+ Kh7 35.Qh3+ Kg8 36.Qe6+ Kh7 37.Qh3+ Kg8 38.Qe6+=)* 34.Kg2 Qxb2+ 35.Kf1 Qa1+ *(35...Qxh2 36.Rxg7+* Decoy, Back Rank, Clearance *Kxg7 37.Qe7+ Kg8 38.Rxf8#)* 36.Kg2 Qb2+ Skewer *(36...Qxa2+ 37.Kf1=)* 37.Kf1 Qb1+ *(37...Qxh2 38.Rxg7+* Decoy, Back Rank, Clearance *Kxg7 39.Qe7+ Kg8 40.Rxf8#)* 38.Kg2 Qc2+ *(38...Qxa2+ 39.Kf1=)* 39.Kf1 Qd1+ *(39...Rxh2 40.Rxf8+* Remove Defender *Kxf8 41.Re8+ Kf7 42.Qe7#; 39...Qxh2 40.Rxg7+* Decoy, Back Rank, Clearance *Kxg7 41.Qe7+ Kg8 42.Rxf8#; 39...Qb1+ 40.Kg2=)* 40.Kg2 Qc2+ Skewer, Double Attack 41.Kf1 Qb1+ *(41...Rxh2 42.Rxf8+* Remove Defender *Kxf8 43.Re8+ Kf7 44.Qe7#; 41...Qxh2 42.Rxg7+* Decoy, Back Rank, Clearance *Kxg7 43.Qe7+ Kg8 44.Rxf8#)* 42.Kg2 Qb2+ *(42...Qxa2+ 43.Kf1=)*]
32...Rh4-+ Black is clearly winning.
33.Qf2 Rh3 34.Ree3 -7.90/20
[⌓34.Rxh3 -4.94/18 Nxh3 35.Qxf7+ Kxf7 36.Re3 Nxg5 37.Kg1]
34...Rxf3 35.Rxf3 Qf5 Black used his chance.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.82/ Black=0.50
0-1

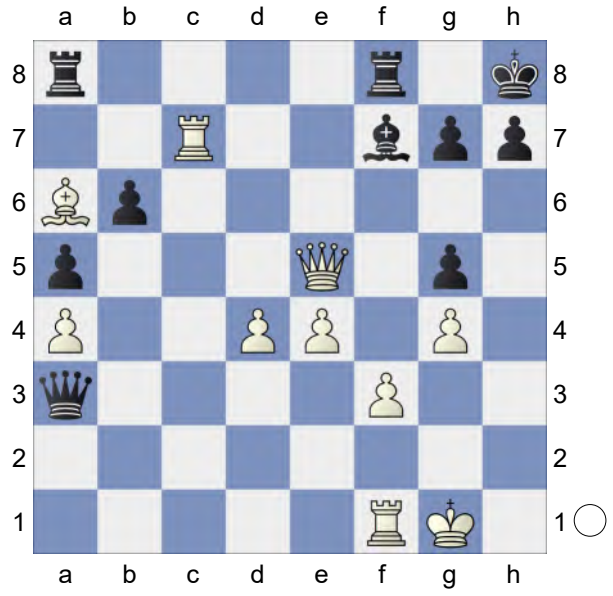
A20

□ **Keymer,Vincent** 2733
■ **So,W** 2747
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (4.2) 18.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

A20: English Opening: 1...e5
1.c4 e5 2.d3 Nf6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.a3 a5
[4...d5 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.e4 Nf6 7.Be2 a5 8.0-0 Bc5 9.Be3 Bb6 10.Nbd2 Bxe3 11.fxe3 Ng4 12.Nc4 b5 13.h3 bxc4 14.hxg4 Bxg4 15.Qa4 Bd7 16.Qxc4 0-0 17.Qc5 Re8 18.Rac1 a4 19.Bd1 ½-½ (56) 11...Qc7 12.Nbd2 cd4 13.c,4 (2740)-Osnos,V (2761) TCh-AUT 2014-15 (5.1)]
5.Nc3 d5N
[5...Bc5 6.Bg5 Be7 7.e3 0-0 8.Be2 d6 9.0-0 Re8 10.Bh4 h6 11.h3 Bf5 12.Bg3 Nd7 13.Rb1 g5 14.Rc1 Bf8 15.d4 Bh7 16.d5 Ne7 17.e4 Ng6 18.Nd2 Nf4 19.f3 Nc5 20.Qc2 1-0 (45) Adiguzel,H (2234)-7.00 c6 8.♖e1 a6 (2178) corr AUS-SCO 2015 h5 21.Bf2 Kh8 22.Rce1 Qd7 23.Bxc5 dxc5 24.Rf2 Ra6 25.Nf1 Be7 26.Ne3 g4 27.fxg4 Bh4 28.Ncd1 Rg8 29.Qc3 f6 30.Nf5 Bxf5 31.exf5 hxg4 32.hxg4 Rg7 33.g3 Nh3+ 34.Kg2 Nxf2 35.Nxf2 1-0 (45) Diaz Rubi,F (2234)-Velde,M (2178) corr ESP/W/M/083 (ESP) 2019 Bg5 36.Ne4 Qe7 37.Bd3 Kg8 38.Rh1 b6 39.Qe1 Ra8 40.Rh3 Kf7 41.Bc2 Rag8 42.Ba4 Kf8 43.Qh1 Be3 44.Kf3 Bd2 45.Nxd2 1-0 Vasallo,E-Garcia,J Estevez mem corr 1991]
6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.e4 Nxc3 8.bxc3 The position is equal. **8...Bc5 9.Be2 0-0 10.0-0 Bg4** 0.27/20
[⌓10...a4 -0.21/20]
11.h3 -0.31/22
[White should try 11.a4= 0.27/20]
11...Bh5 0.30/22
[11...Bxf3∓ -0.31/22 12.Bxf3 Qd6]
12.g4 -0.21/21
[⌓12.Be3 0.30/22 Bxe3 13.fxe3]
12...Bg6= 13.a4 b6 14.Qb3 Kh8! 15.Bb2 f6 16.Rad1 Bd6 17.Qc2 Qe8 18.Nh4 Nd8 19.Bc1 Ne6 20.Nf5 -0.77/22
[20.d4!± 0.45/23 keeps the upper hand.]
20...Rd8 0.39/23
[20...Nc5∓ -0.77/22 21.Nxd6 cxd6]
21.Be3 -0.22/20
[Better is 21.d4± 0.39/23]
21...Nc5 22.Ra1 Ne6 23.d4 exd4 0.64/23
[23...Ng5= -0.02/21]
24.cxd4± Nf4 aiming for ...Nxe2+.
25.Bb5
[25.Nxd6 Nxe2+ 26.Qxe2 cxd6∓]
25...Qe6 26.Nxd6 0.00/27
[26.Bxf4± 0.74/24 Bxf4 27.Rad1]
26...Qxd6 27.f3 Strongly threatening Qh2. **27...Nd5 28.Bf2** Rfc1 would now be deadly. **28...Nf4 29.Kh1** Black must now prevent Bg3. **29...Nxh3 30.Be3 Ng5 31.Rac1** -0.31/21
[31.Kg2= 0.24/22]
31...Rc8 0.78/21
[31...Qg3∓ -0.31/21 32.Bxg5 fxg5 33.Qxc7 Rd6]
32.Qh2 -0.52/22
[32.d5± 0.78/21]
32...Qe7 0.53/21
[32...Qa3 33.Qe2=]
[32...Nxf3!∓ -0.52/22 33.Rxf3 *(33.Qxd6 cxd6 34.Rxf3 Rxc1+ 35.Bxc1 Bxe4∓* Pin) 33...Bxe4 Pin]
33.Kg1 Be8 0.96/20
[33...Qa3± 0.43/19 34.Qe2 Qe7]
34.Ba6± Ra8 35.Rxc7
[35.Qxc7? Qxc7 36.Rxc7 Rxa6-+]
35...Qa3 36.Bxg5 fxg5



37.Qe5! Really sharp! **37...Bf7**



38.Bc4→ 0.00/23 Black needs to defend precisely. White is much more active.
[White should play 38.Bb5!± 1.23/22]
38...Qe3+? 2.65/24 White now steadily converts the win.
[38...Rae8!= 0.00/23 39.Qxg5 Qd6 40.Bxf7 *(40.Rxf7 Qg3+ 41.Kh1 Qh3+ 42.Kg1 Qg3+ 43.Kh1 Qh3+ 44.Kg1 Qg3+=)* 40...Rxf7 41.Rxf7 Qg3+ 42.Kh1 Qh3+ 43.Kg1 Qg3+ 44.Kh1 Qh3+ 45.Kg1 Qg3+]
39.Kg2+- Black is weak on the light squares **39...Rae8?** 250.00/21
[39...Rfe8 2.03/20 40.Qb5 Bxc4 41.Qxc4 *(41.Rxc4 Rxe4 42.fxe4 Qxe4+ 43.Rf3 Qe2+ 44.Kg3 Qe1+ 45.Kg2 Qe2+ 46.Kg3 Qe1+ 47.Rf2 Qg1+ 48.Rg2 Qe1+ 49.Rf2 Qg1+ 50.Rg2 Qe1+ 51.Rf2=)* 41...Rab8]
40.Rxf7 Rg8 41.Qd6 7.44/20
[⌓41.Rxg7 #5/17 Qe2+ 42.Kg3 *(42.Bxe2 Rxe5 43.Rxg8+ Kxg8 44.dxe5 h6 45.f4 gxf4 46.Rxf4 Kh7)* 42...Qh2+ 43.Kxh2 Rxg7 44.Qxe8+ Rg8 45.Qxg8#]
41...Rc8 42.Qd5 Rgd8 43.Rd7 Rg8 44.Rf2 h6 45.Qe6 Qc3 46.Bd5 Qa1 47.Qf7
[Worse is 47.Qxb6 Rc1 48.Qa6 *(48.Qxa5 Rg1+ 49.Kh2 Rh1+ 50.Kg3 Qg1+ 51.Rg2 Rh3+* Skewer, Decoy, Clearance *52.Kxh3 Qh1+ 53.Rh2 Qxf3#)* 48...Rg1+ 49.Kh3 Rh1+ 50.Rh2 Qd1=]
47...Rcf8 48.Qg6 Rf6 Wards off e5
49.Qh5 Rgf8 50.Qh3 3.08/20
[⌓50.e5 6.47/21 Rf4 51.e6 Qxa4 52.Qg6 *(52.Be4 R4f6+-)* 52...Qxd4 53.Qc2 *(53.e7 Rxg4+* Pin *54.Kh3 Rh4+ 55.Kg2 Rh2+* Decoy *56.Kxh2 Qxf2+ 57.Kh1 Qf1+ 58.Kh2 Qf2+ 59.Kh3 Qf1+ 60.Kh2 Qf2+=)* 53...Rxg4+ 54.fxg4 Re8 55.Qe4]
50...Qxd4 5.23/21
[50...Qxa4 3.08/20 51.Rc7 Qxd4]
51.Qg3 Qxa4 8.17/21
[⌓51...Rf4 4.61/18 52.Bc6 Qc3]
52.Ra7 3.86/22
[⌓52.Qc7 8.17/21 Rc6 53.Bxc6 *(53.Qxc6 Qxc6 54.Bxc6 Re8+-)*]
52...Qd4 53.Rd7 a4 6.12/21
[⌓53...Rf4 4.03/19 54.Be6 Qf6]
54.e5 Rf4 55.e6 e7 is the strong threat.
55...Re8 56.Re2 a3 57.e7 Rf6 58.Rd8 Qa4 59.Qb8

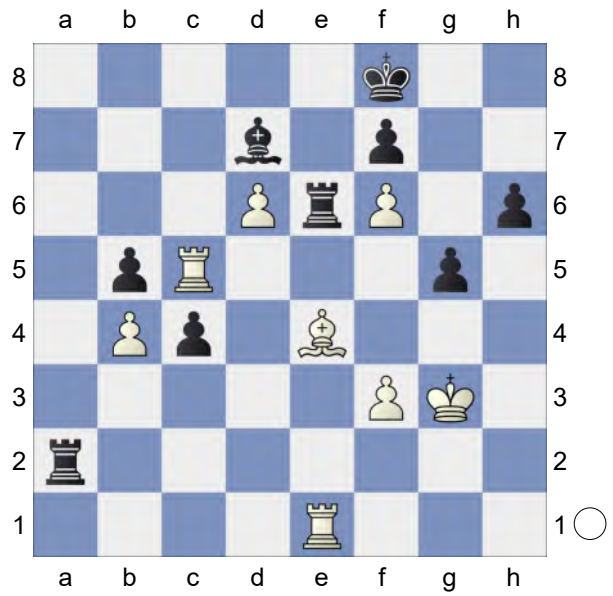
Weighted Error Value: White=0.32/ Black=0.57
1-0

C84
□ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**
■ **Carlsen,M** **2831**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (4.2) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

C77: Ruy Lopez: 3...a6 4 Ba4 Nf6, unusual lines
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.d3 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.Nc3 d6 9.a3 Rb8 10.h3
[10.Be3 Na5 11.Ba2 c5 12.Nd5 c4 13.Nxe7+ Qxe7 14.Qd2 Nc6 15.h3 Be6 16.b4 Rfc8 17.c3 cxd3 18.Qxd3 Bxa2 19.Rxa2 d5 20.Nd2 Qe6 21.Raa1 Ne7 22.Bc5 Ng6 23.Rad1 Rd8 24.Qf3 h6 0-1 (41) Leko,P (2708)-Carlsen,M (2850) EU-chT (Men) 20th 2015 (6.1)]
10...h6 11.Be3 Re8 The position is equal. **12.Ne2N** -0.12/25
[⩲12.Nd5 0.28/24]
[12.Nh2 Bf8 13.f4 exf4 14.Rxf4 Be6 15.Bxe6 fxe6 16.Ng4 Nh7 17.Qf3 Be7 18.Rf1 Bg5 19.Rf7 Rf8 20.Rxf8+ Qxf8 21.Qg3 Bxe3+ 22.Qxe3 Qe7 23.Ne2 Qg5 24.Nf4 Re8 25.Rf3 h5 26.Nh2 Ne5 ½-½ (99) Suyarov,M (2467)-Gharibyan,M (2472) Julius Baer GenCup Pl/In rapid 2024 (5)]
[12.Re1 Bf8 13.d4 exd4 14.Nxd4 Na5 15.Ba2 c5 16.Nde2 Nc4 17.Bxc4 bxc4 18.Ng3 Rxb2 19.Qd2 Qa5 20.Reb1 Rxb1+ 21.Rxb1 Qxa3 22.Qe1 Qa5 23.Qd2 Be6 24.f3 Qd8 25.Rd1 d5 26.exd5 Bd7 0-1 (66) Sjugirov,S (2709)-Artemiev,V (2701) RUS-ch Blitz 2022 (7)]
12...Bf8= 13.c3 d5 14.Bc2 dxe4 15.dxe4 Qxd1 16.Rfxd1 Na5 17.b3 Wards off Nc4 **17...Be6 18.Nc1 Nd7 19.Nd2 c5 20.b4 Nb7 21.Nf3** -0.63/20
[21.Bb3= -0.24/21]
21...Rec8 -0.21/19
[21...Rbc8∓ -0.63/20]
22.Bb3! c4 23.Bc2 a5 24.Ne2 Ra8 25.Nh4 Ra6 26.f4 exf4 27.Nxf4 Ne5 28.Nf3 Nxf3+ 29.gxf3 Rca8 30.Rac1 axb4! 31.axb4 Strongly threatening e5. **31...Ra3! 32.Bd4** Black should prevent Nxe6. **32...Nd8 33.e5! g5 34.Nh5 Nc6** ...f5! would now be deadly. **35.Be4 Nxd4 36.cxd4 Rd8 37.d5 Bxh3 38.d6 Bg7 39.Rd5 Bd7 40.Rc5 Bh8 41.Kf2 Kf8** 0.76/23
[41...Ra2+= 0.01/24 remains equal. 42.Rc2 Rxc2+ 43.Bxc2 Re8]
42.Re1 0.00/25 White is more active.
[White should try 42.Nf6!± 0.76/23 Nxd7+ is the strong threat. Ra2+ 43.Kg3]
42...Ra2+ 43.Kg3! Re8□ Black puts up resistance **44.Nf6! Bxf6 45.exf6 Re6?** 2.32/29
[45...h5!= 0.03/23 and Black has nothing to worry. 46.Rxg5 Re6]

(Diagram)

46.Rc7? 0.05/28
[46.Bf5!+- 2.32/29 Rxe1 47.Bxd7 Rg1+ 48.Kh3 Rh1+ 49.Kg4 Rh4+ 50.Kg3]
46...Rxd6 aiming for ...h5!
[46...Ke8!? 47.Rb7 Ra8±]
47.Rh1 Rxf6 48.Rxd7 And now Rb7 would win. **48...Rb2 49.Rb1 Rxb1 50.Bxb1** Endgame. Black must now prevent Rb7. KRB-KR **50...Ra6?** 3.37/24



[50...h5!= 0.16/25]

51.Rb7+- c3 52.Rxb5 Ra1 4.48/25

[⌓52...Ra3 3.05/21 53.Rf5 Ra4]

53.Be4 Ra4 54.Kg4 Kg7 55.Rb6? 0.14/24

[Better is 55.Kf5+- 5.05/24]

55...Ra2!= 56.Rc6 Rb2 57.Rc4 Threatens to win with Kf5!

[57.Rxc3 Rxb4 58.Rc8 Rb6±]

57...Kf6 58.f4 0.04/23

[58.Rxc3 Rxb4 59.Rc6+ Kg7±]

[58.Kg3± 0.47/22]

58...gxf4? 5.19/23

[58...h5+= 0.04/23 59.Kxh5 gxf4]

59.Kxf4+- h5

(Diagram)

60.Bd3? 0.03/20

[60.Rxc3 Rxb4 61.Rc5 h4±]

[60.Ke3!+- 4.38/22]

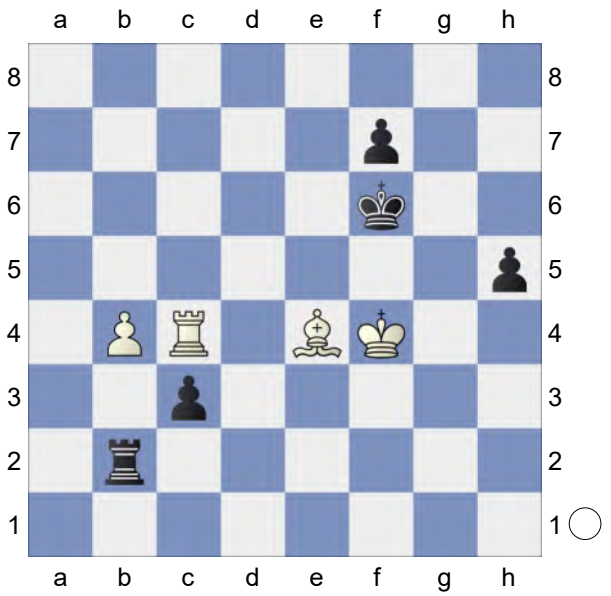
60...h4= 61.b5

[61.Rxc3 Rxb4+ 62.Bc4 Ra4±]

61...h3? 4.84/23 White leaves nothing to chance now.

[61...Rb3!= 0.09/22 and Black stays safe.]

62.Rxc3+- h2 63.Rc6+



[63.Rc1 Ke6 64.Ke3 f6+-]

63...Ke7 6.64/19

[⌓63...Kg7 4.05/20 64.Rc1 f5]

64.Rh6 f6 65.Ke4 Ke6 66.Bc4+ Kd6 67.Kd4

[67.Rxf6+ Kc5 68.Rh6 *(68.Rc6+ Kb4=)* 68...Kxc4=]

67...Rf2 68.Bd3 Ke6 69.Be4 Rb2 70.Kc5 Ke5 71.Bc6 Rc2+ 72.Kb6 f5 73.Kc7 f4 74.b6 f3 75.b7 f2 76.b8Q

[76.b8B f1Q *(76...f1B 77.Kd7+ Kf5 78.Bxh2±)* 77.Kd8+ Kd4 78.Rd6+ Kc5 *(78...Kc3? 79.Kd7-+)* 79.Be4 Qf8+ Skewer *(79...h1R? 80.Rd5+ Kc4 81.Bh2-+; 79...h1Q 80.Rd5+ Kc4 81.Bxh1 Qxh1 82.Rg5 Qh8+ 83.Kd7 Qxb8 84.Rg6 Rd2+ 85.Ke7 Qc7+ 86.Kf6 Rf2+ 87.Ke6 Qf7+ 88.Kd6 Qxg6+ 89.Ke5 Qf6+ 90.Ke4 Qf4#)* 80.Kd7 Qxb8 81.Rc6+ Kd4 82.Rxc2 Qb5+ *(82...Kxe4* is a self mate. *83.Rc1 Qb5+ 84.Kd6 Qe5+ 85.Kc6 Qf6+ 86.Kd7 Qg7+ 87.Kc8 Qh8+ 88.Kc7 h1Q 89.Rxh1 Qxh1 90.Kd6 Qc1 91.Ke6 Qc6+ 92.Ke7 Kf5 93.Kd8 Qb7 94.Ke8 Ke6 95.Kf8 Qf7#)* 83.Kd6 Kxe4 84.Rc1 Qe5+ 85.Kc6 Qh5

(85...Qf6+ 86.Kd7 Qf5+ 87.Ke8 Qh5+ 88.Kd7 Qh7+ 89.Kd8 h1Q 90.Rxh1 Qxh1 91.Kd7 Kd5 92.Ke7 Ke5 93.Ke8 Qh7 94.Kd8 Kd6 95.Ke8 Qg8#) 86.Re1+ Kd4 87.Kd7 h1Q *(87...h1R 88.Rxh1 Qxh1 89.Ke6 Qf3 90.Kd6 Qd5+ 91.Ke7 Ke5 92.Kf8 Qd7 93.Kg8 Kf6 94.Kh8 Qg7#)* 88.Rxh1 Qxh1 89.Ke6 Qf3 90.Kd6 Qf6+ 91.Kd7 Kc5 92.Ke8 Qg7 93.Kd8 Kd6 94.Ke8 Qg8#]

76...f1Q 77.Qh8+

Weighted Error Value: White=0.38/ Black=0.35

1-0

C24

□ **Aronian,L** **2747**

■ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**

CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (4.2) 18.12.24

[Kitty Kat]

C28: Vienna Game: 2...Nf6 3 Bc4 Nc6

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Nf6 3.d3 Nc6 4.Nc3 Bb4 5.Nf3 d5 6.exd5 Nxd5 7.0-0 Bxc3 8.bxc3 0-0 9.Bd2 Bg4 10.Rb1N -0.09/20

[⌓10.Re1 0.27/20 Qd6 11.Rb1 Nb6 12.Bb5 Rae8 13.Bxc6 bxc6 14.c4 Na4 15.Qe2 f5 16.Qe3 e4 17.dxe4 Rxe4 18.Qxa7 Bxf3 19.gxf3 Rxe1+ 20.Bxe1 Nb6 21.c5 Qg6+ 22.Kf1 Nd5 23.Rb8 Qh5 24.Rxf8+ Kxf8 25.Qb8+ 1-0 (66) Bernstein,O-Alekhine,A Match Paris (France) 1933 (3) Ke7 26.Qb3 Qxh2 27.Bd2 Qh1+ 28.Ke2 Qa1 29.c4 Qe5+ 30.Kf1 Nf6 31.Bc3 Qe6 32.a4 g5 33.a5 g4 34.a6 gxf3 35.Bxf6+ Qxf6 36.Qe3+ Kf7 37.Qxf3 Qa1+ 38.Kg2 Qxa6 39.Qxf5+ Kg7 40.Qd7+ 1-0 (66) C1 Nd4-Brochet,P 56/329 Debrecen 1992 (3)]

10...Nb6= Strongly threatening ...Nxc4.

11.Bb3 Qd6 0.33/19

[11...e4= -0.12/20 12.dxe4 Ne5]

12.Qe2 -0.20/18

[12.Re1⩲ 0.33/19]

12...Kh8 0.67/20

[12...a5!= -0.20/18 13.a4 Be6]

13.h3⩲ Bh5 14.g4 Bg6 15.Nh4 Rae8 16.Rbe1 f5 1.26/19

[16...Qd8⩲ 0.55/20 17.g5 a6]

17.Kh1 0.17/18

[17.f4± 1.26/19]

17...f4= 18.Nxg6+ Qxg6 19.Qe4 Qh6 20.Kh2 Nc8 0.24/20

[20...Nd7 -0.24/22 is more appropriate.]

21.f3 Nd6 22.Qe2 Nd8 0.43/21

[22...Nf7= -0.12/18]

23.Qg2 N8f7 24.Re2 Qf6 25.Be1 Ng5 0.61/19

[25...g5= 0.00/20]

26.h4⩲ Ne6 1.27/22 White stays focused until the end.

[Better is 26...Ngf7!⩲ 0.51/18]

27.Bf2 e4 Discovered Attack **28.dxe4**

[28.Bxa7? Qxh4+ 29.Kg1 exf3 *(29...e3? 30.Bxe6 Rxe6 31.Bd4-+)* 30.Rxf3 Ng5-+]

28...Qxc3 29.Rd1

[29.Bxa7? b6 30.Rd2 Nc4-+]

29...Nf7 1.79/20

[29...Qc6± 1.35/17 30.Rd3 *(30.Bxa7? b6-+)* 30...Nc4]

30.Rd3

[30.Bxa7? Ne5 31.Kh3 b6-+ *(31...Qxf3+ 32.Qxf3 Nxf3 33.Bxe6=; 31...Nxf3 32.Rd3∓)*]

30...Qf6 2.07/18

[30...Qc6± 1.48/18]

31.Rd5 1.23/18

[31.Bxa7? Qxh4+ 32.Qh3 Qxh3+ 33.Kxh3 b6-+]

[31.g5+- 2.07/18 Qe7 32.Rd5 *(32.Bxa7? b6-+)*]

31...c6 2.28/21

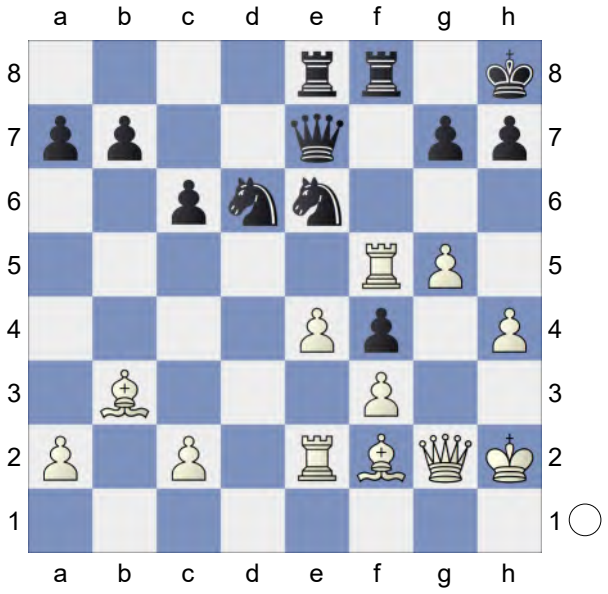
[31...Qb2± 1.23/18]

32.Rf5+- Qe7 33.g5

[33.Bxa7 Qxh4+ 34.Qh3 Qd8 35.Bxe6 Rxe6=]

33...Nd6? 4.25/21

[33...b6 2.11/18 34.Qg4 c5]



34.Qg4! Nc7

[34...Nd8 35.Rxf8+]

35.Rxf4 Rxf4 36.Qxf4 Rf8 37.Qg4 Threatens to win with Rd2! **37...Nf7** 4.07/20

[37...c5 2.65/19 keeps fighting.]

38.f4

[38.Bxa7? is the wrong capture. Ne5 39.Qh3 Rxf3-+]

38...Nb5 39.e5 Nc3 40.Re3 Nd5 41.Rf3 Nd8 42.Bg3

[Much less strong is 42.Bxa7 Qb4 43.c4 Ne7+-]

42...Nf7? 5.96/19

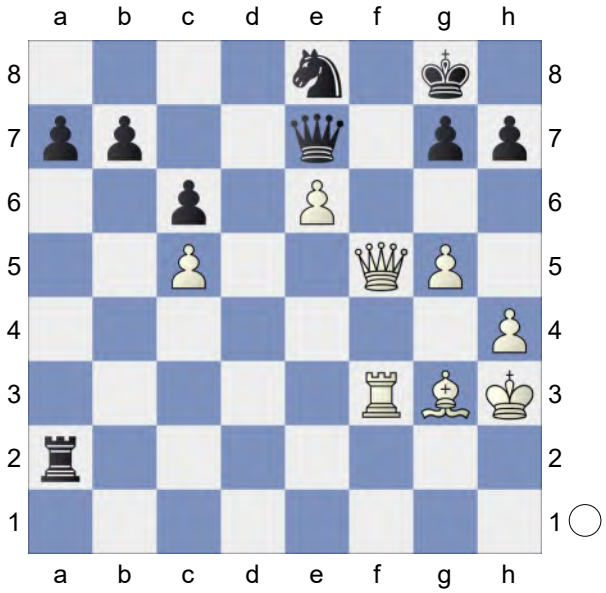
[42...g6 3.34/16 was worth a try. 43.h5 Ne6 44.hxg6 hxg6]

43.e6 Nd6 44.f5 Rxf5 45.Bxd5 Rxd5 46.c4 Rd2+ 47.Kh3 aiming for c5.

47...Kg8 7.30/18

[⌓47...b6 4.07/17 48.h5 Re2]

48.c5 Ne8 49.Qf5 Rxa2



50.Bd6! Nxd6 51.cxd6 Qe8 52.d7

Weighted Error Value: White=0.34/ Black=0.55

1-0

A13

□ **So,W** **2747**

■ **Keymer,Vincent** **2733**

CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (4.3) 18.12.24

[Kitty Kat]

A13: English Opening: 1...e6

1.c4 e6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 d4 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.d3 Nc6 6.0-0 Bc5 7.Nbd2 0-0 8.Nb3 Be7 White is slightly better. **9.e3 dxe3 10.Bxe3 Ng4 11.Bc5 Bxc5**

[11...Rb8 12.d4 b6 13.Bxe7 Nxe7 14.Qc2 Bb7 15.Rad1 Nf6 16.Rfe1 h6 17.Nc1 Qd6 18.Ne2 c5 19.b3 Rfd8 20.Qb2 Nf5 21.d5 exd5 22.cxd5 Nxd5 23.Nf4 Qf6 24.Qxf6 Nxf6 25.Ne5 Nd4 26.h4 ½-½ (89) Assaubayeva,B (2440)-Lagno,K (2560) Astana Satty Zhuldyz Rapid

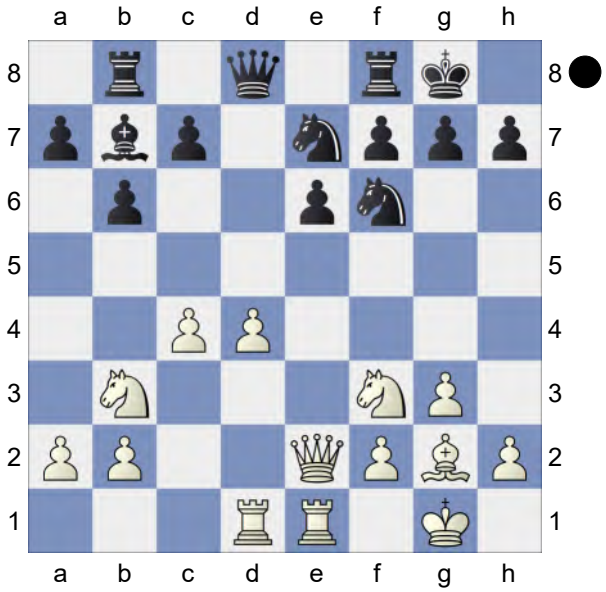
2023 (1)]

12.Nxc5 b6 13.Nb3N

[13.Qa4 seems wilder. Ne7 14.Nh4 g5 15.Bxa8 gxh4 16.Nb3]

[13.Ne4 Bb7 14.d4 Rb8 15.Re1 Nf6 16.Nc3 Ne7 17.Ne5 Bxg2 18.Kxg2 c6 19.Qd3 2) ...e6 -...d5 Setups-1...e6 - 2...d5 #11]

13...Bb7 14.d4 Rb8 15.Qe2 Nf6 16.Rad1 Ne7 17.Rfe1



Threatens to win with d5! **17...Ng6 18.h4 Qc8 19.Bh3** aiming for d5! **19...Qe8 20.Ng5** 0.11/21

[20.Ne5± 0.56/21 feels stronger.]

20...h6= 21.h5 Ne7 22.Nf3

[22.Nxf7!? Rxf7 *(22...Qxf7? 23.Bxe6+-* Pin *)* 23.Bxe6= Pin]

22...Nc6 0.39/18

[22...b5!∓ -0.31/21]

23.Nh4

[23.Ne5!?]

23...a5 24.Rd2 -0.44/19

[24.Na1= 0.00/21 should be considered.]

24...a4∓ 25.Na1 Na5 26.b4 axb3 27.axb3 b5 28.d5 exd5 29.Qd1 Qd8 30.cxb5 Bc8 31.Bxc8 Qxc8 32.Qf3 -1.36/17

[32.Nc2= -0.13/19 keeps the balance.]

32...Re8↑ Black is really pushing.

33.Rxe8+ Qxe8 34.Re2 -2.37/20

[34.Nc2∓ -1.27/18]

34...Qxb5-+ 35.Nf5 Nxb3 36.Nc2 d4 37.Re7? -4.21/18

[37.Ncxd4 -2.17/19 is a better defense. Nxd4 38.Nxd4]

37...Nd2 (-> ...Qf1+) **38.Nxh6+ Kh7**

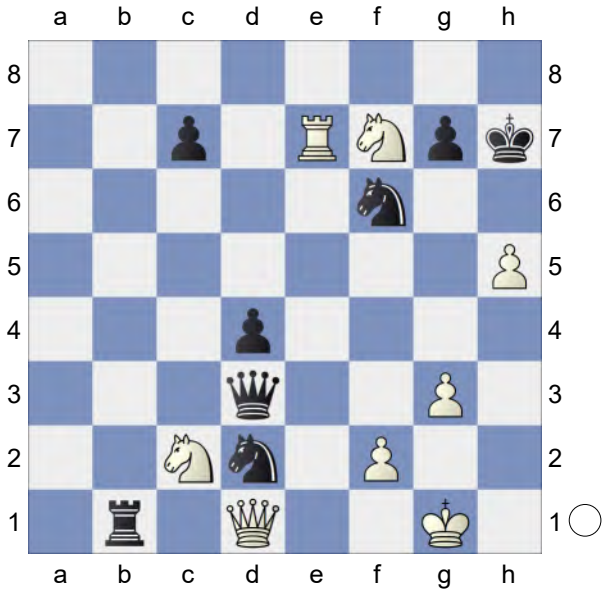
[38...gxh6 39.Qxf6 Qd5 40.Ne1=]

39.Qd1 Wards off Qf1+ **39...Qd3**

[39...Qxh5 40.Qxd2 Qxh6 41.Qxh6+ Kxh6 42.Nxd4=]

40.Nxf7 Rb1

[40...Nf3+ 41.Qxf3 Qxc2 42.h6+-]



Pin **41.Ng5+ Kh6 42.Nf7+ Kh7 43.Ng5+ Kh6?** 0.00/5

[43...Kg8-+ -5.23/21 44.Qxb1 Nxb1 45.Rxc7 Qd1+ *(45...Nxh5 46.Rc8#; 45...Qf5? 46.Nxd4 Qxg5 47.Ne6-+)* 46.Kg2 Qg4 *(46...Nxh5 47.Rc8#)* 47.Nxd4 Qxg5]

44.Nf7+

Weighted Error Value: White=0.37/ Black=0.24 (precise)

½-½

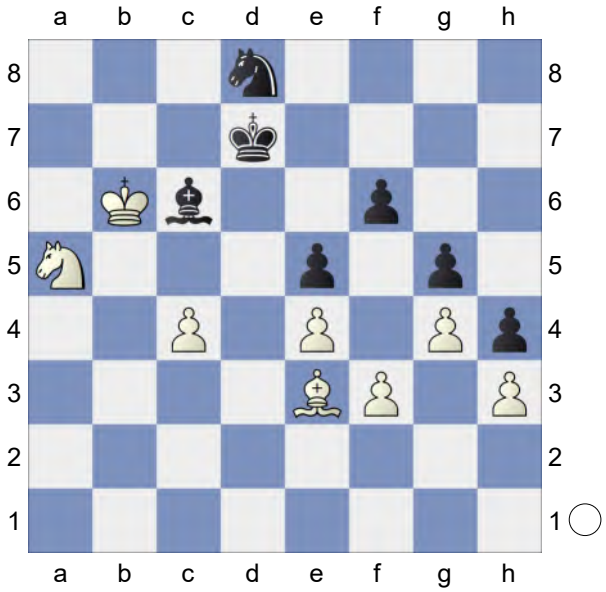
C84

□ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**
■ **Carlsen,M** **2831**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (4.3) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

C77: Ruy Lopez: 3...a6 4 Ba4 Nf6, unusual lines

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.d3 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.Nc3 d6 9.a3 Rb8 10.h3
[10.Be3 Na5 11.Ba2 c5 12.Nd5 *(12.h3 Nc6 13.Nd5 Nxd5 14.Bxd5 Bd7 15.c3 Bf6 16.b4 Qe7 17.Qd2 Rfc8 18.Nh2 h5 19.g4 hxg4 20.Nxg4 Nd8 21.bxc5 dxc5 22.f4 Bxg4 23.hxg4 exf4 24.Bxf4 Be5 25.Ra2 Rb6 26.Bg5 Bf6* 1-0 (62) Kollars,D (2659)-Petrosyan,M (2631) Julius Baer GenCup Pl/In rapid 2024 (7) *)* 12...c4 13.Nxe7+ Qxe7 14.Qd2 Nc6 15.h3 Be6 16.b4 Rfc8 17.c3 cxd3 18.Qxd3 Bxa2 19.Rxa2 d5 20.Nd2 Qe6 21.Raa1 Ne7 22.Bc5 Ng6 23.Rad1 Rd8 24.Qf3 h6 0-1 (41) Leko,P (2708)-Carlsen,M (2850) EU-chT (Men) 20th 2015 (6.1)]
10...h6 11.Ne2N -0.05/23
[11.Be3± 0.39/22 Re8 12.Re1 Bf8 13.d4 exd4 14.Nxd4 Na5 15.Ba2 c5 16.Nde2 Nc4 17.Bxc4 bxc4 18.Ng3 Rxb2 19.Qd2 Qa5 20.Reb1 Rxb1+ 21.Rxb1 Qxa3 22.Qe1 Qa5 23.Qd2 Be6 24.f3 Qd8 25.Rd1 d5 26.exd5 0-1 (66) Sjugirov,S (2709)-Artemiev,V (2701) RUS-ch Blitz 2022 (7)]
[11.Ba2 Re8 12.Nh2 Nd4 13.f4 exf4 14.Bxf4 Be6 15.Nf3 Nxf3+ 16.Qxf3 Bxa2 17.Rxa2 Qd7 18.Raa1 Qe6 19.Kh1 Rbc8 20.Bg3 Nd7 21.a4 c6 22.Ne2 Ne5 23.Qf2 Bf8 24.axb5 axb5 25.Ra7 Ra8 1-0 (67) Logan,T (2737)-Delmarko,D (2709) 10 Leningrad 1956 (5)]
[11.Nd5 Nxd5 12.Bxd5 Qe8 13.Be3 Bd8 14.b4 Bd7 15.Re1 Ne7 16.Bb3 Ng6 17.d4 exd4 18.Bxd4 Be6 19.e5 Bxb3 20.cxb3 Qd7 21.Qc2 Re8 22.Rac1 Bg5 23.Rcd1 Rbd8 24.Bb2 Qc8 25.exd6 cxd6 1-0 (50) Garifullina,L (2402)-Shuvalova,P (2506) FIDE Grand Swiss (Women) 2023 (8)]
11...Re8 12.Ng3 Bf8 13.c3 Be6 14.Bc2 d5 15.b4 dxe4 16.dxe4 Qxd1 17.Rxd1 Red8 0.28/27
[⌓17...a5 -0.18/24]
18.Rxd8 Rxd8 19.a4 Ne8 20.axb5 axb5 21.Ra6 Bd7 0.52/24
[21...Nb8= 0.15/27 22.Ra8 f6]
22.Nf1 Nd6 23.Ne3 f6 24.Nd2 Ne7 0.57/21
[24...Nb8= 0.16/25 deserves consideration. 25.Bb3+ Kh7]
25.Nb3± Bc6 26.Nc5 Ra8 1.96/23
[26...Be8± 0.74/20]
27.Bb3+ 1.28/26
[White should try 27.f3+- 1.96/23]
27...Kh7 2.10/22
[27...Kh8± 1.28/26]
28.Rxa8+- Bxa8 29.Ne6 Ng6 30.f3
[30.Nxc7?! Bxe4 31.Ned5 h5±]
30...c6 2.94/24
[30...Ne8 2.02/22 was necessary. 31.h4 Bd6]
31.Nf5 Threatens to win with Nxf8+.
31...Nc4 4.13/26
[31...Be7 2.86/21 was called for. 32.Nexg7 *(32.Nfxg7 Nf8+-)* 32...Nxf5 33.Nxf5 Bf8]
32.Nxf8+ 2.03/21
[⌓32.Bxc4 4.13/26 bxc4 33.Be3]
32...Nxf8 33.Bxc4 bxc4 Endgame. KBN-KBN **34.Nd6** Prevents Bb7.
34...Ne6 35.Be3 g5 36.Nxc4 Bb7 37.Na5 Ba8 38.Kf2 Kg6 39.Ke2 h5

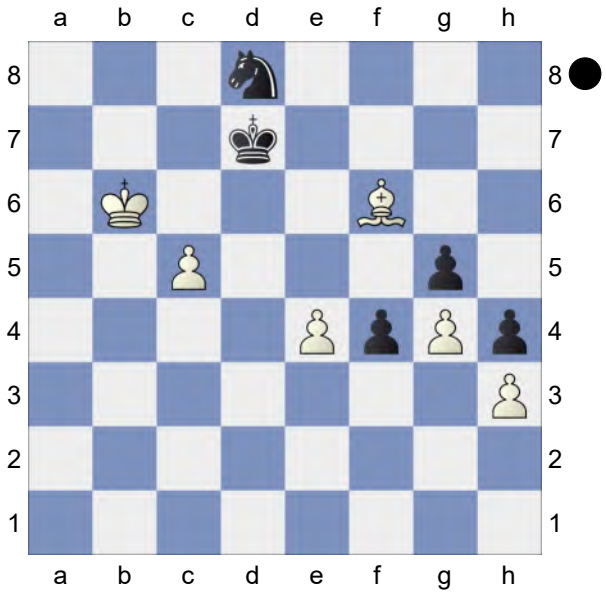
40.g4 h4 4.40/27
[40...hxg4 3.09/24 was worth a try. 41.hxg4 Kg7]
41.Kd3 Kf7 42.Kc4 Ke7 43.b5 2.19/28
[⌓43.Kb3 3.81/30]
43...cxb5+ 44.Kxb5 Kd7 45.c4 1.24/27
[45.Kb6+- 2.22/28]
45...Nd8 2.17/26
[45...Kc7± 1.24/27]
46.Kb6 0.76/22
[46.Nb3!+- 2.17/26]
46...Bc6±



47.Nxc6 0.00/43
[47.Nb3!± 0.79/27]
47...Nxc6 KB-KN **48.c5 Nd8 49.Bd2 Nc6! 50.Bc3 Nd8 51.Kb5 Nc6 52.Ka6 Kc7** Strongly threatening ...Nd4. **53.Kb5 Kd7 54.Kb6 Nd8 55.Be1**
[55.Bb4!?]
55...Nc6! 56.Bc3 Nd8 57.f4? -6.23/25
exf4-+ 58.Bxf6

(Diagram)

f3? 0.00/34
[58...Ne6!-+ -6.06/37 59.Bc3 f3]
59.Bd4!= The position is equal.
[59.Bxg5 f2 60.Bxd8 Kxd8 *(60...f1R*

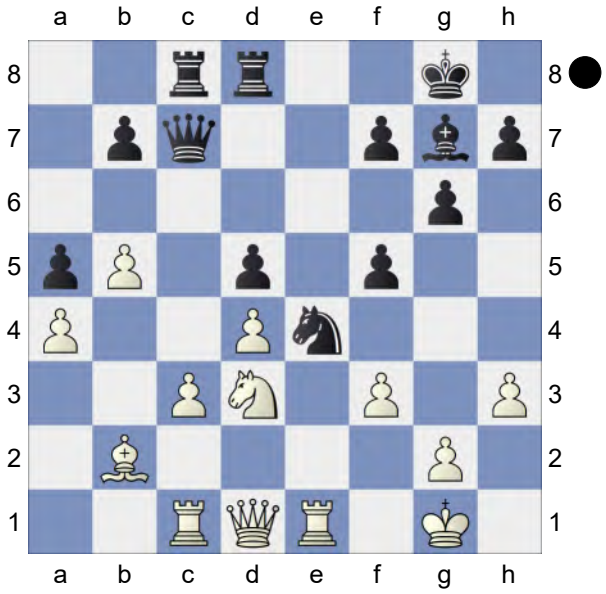


61.Bxh4 Rb1+ 62.Ka7∓; 60...f1Q 61.c6+ Kxd8 62.e5 Qxh3 63.g5 Qb3+ 64.Kc5 h3 65.g6 h2 66.g7 h1Q 67.g8Q+ Qxg8 68.Kb4 Qe4+ 69.Kc5 Qgc4+ 70.Kb6 Qcxc6+ 71.Ka7 Qb7#) 61.g5 f1Q *(61...f1R? 62.c6-+)* 62.e5 Qxh3 63.c6 Qb3+ 64.Kc5 h3 65.g6 h2 66.g7 h1Q *(66...h1R 67.g8Q+ Qxg8 68.e6 Qg5+ 69.Kc4 Rh4+ 70.Kc3 Qg3+ 71.Kc2 Rh2+ 72.Kd1 Qg1#)* 67.g8Q+ Qxg8 68.c7+ Kxc7 69.Kb4 Qg4+ 70.Kb3 Qb1+ 71.Kc3 Qgb4#]
59...Nc6
[59...Ne6!? 60.Be3□ Kc8=]
60.Be3 Ne5 61.Kb7
[61.Bxg5 leads to mate. f2 62.Bd2 f1Q 63.c6+ Nxc6 64.Kc5 Qd3 *(64...Qxh3* is a self mate. *65.Kc4 Qf1+ 66.Kc3 h3 67.g5 h2 68.e5 h1Q 69.e6+ Kxe6 70.Be3 Qa1+ 71.Kb3 Qd5+ 72.Kc2 Qdd1#)* 65.e5 Qd4+ *(65...Qxd2* gets mated. *66.e6+ Kc7 67.Kc4 Kb6 68.Kb3 Na5+ 69.Ka3 Qc2 70.g5 Qb3#)* 66.Kb5 Na7+ *(66...Qxd2 67.e6+ Kd6 68.Kc4 Qc2+ 69.Kb5 Qc5+ 70.Ka6 Kc7 71.g5 Qc4#)* 67.Ka6 Kc6

68.Ba5 Nc8 69.g5 Qd3#]
61...Nc6 Never resign too early!
Weighted Error Value: White=0.32/ Black=0.29 (precise)
½-½

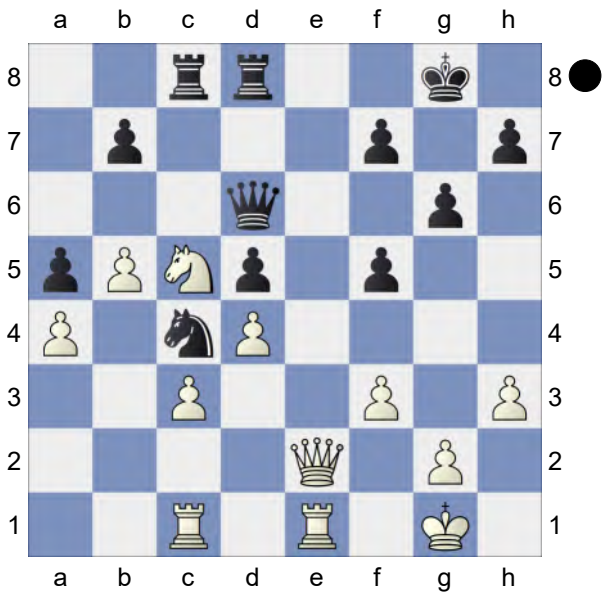
A05
□ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**
■ **Aronian,L** **2747**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (4.3) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

A05: Réti Opening: 1 Nf3 Nf6
1.Nf3 Nf6 2.b3 c5 3.Bb2 Nc6 4.e3 g6 5.Bb5
[5.d4 cxd4 6.Nxd4 Bg7 7.Be2 0-0 8.0-0 Nxd4 9.Bxd4 d5 10.Nd2 Qd6 11.c4 Rd8 12.cxd5 Qxd5 13.Bf3 Qf5 14.Rc1 Ne8 15.Rc5 e5 16.Nc4 f6 17.Rd5 Rxd5 18.Bxd5+ Kh8 19.Bc5 Qd7 1-0 (24) Firouzja,A (2760)-Abbasov,N (2632) FIDE Candidates 2024 (11.4)]
5...Bg7N
[5...Qc7 6.Nc3 Bg7 7.Nd5 Qd6 8.c4 Nh5 9.d4 cxd4 10.exd4 Nf4 11.Nxf4 Qxf4 12.0-0 a6 13.Bxc6 dxc6 14.Re1 Bg4 15.Re3 Qc7 16.h3 Bxf3 17.Qxf3 0-0 18.Rae1 e6 19.Rd1 Rfd8 20.Red3 ½-½ (79) Willemze,T (2255)-Minnebo,A (m/10) 29/464 1980 (4) Rd7 21.Bc1 Re8 22.Bf4 Qa5 23.a4 Red8 24.Bd2 Qb6 25.Bg5 Re8 26.Be3 Qb4 27.c5 Qa5 28.Bf4 Rd5 29.Qe3 Re7 30.Qd2 Qxd2 31.R1xd2 Red7 32.Bd6 Bh6 33.f4 Bg7 34.Kf2 Bf6 35.Ke3 ½-½ (79) Meinsohn,F (2255)-Cerisier,P FRA-ch 58 Championnat 1983 (4)]
6.0-0 0-0 7.Re1 d6 8.d4 The position is equal. **8...cxd4 9.exd4 Bg4 10.Nbd2 Rc8 11.h3** aiming for Bxc6!
11...Bf5 12.a3 Against Nb4 **12...a6 13.Bf1 d5 14.c3 Ne4 15.Nh4** -0.50/23
[15.Nxe4= 0.02/23 Bxe4 16.Nd2]
15...e6 16.Nxf5 -0.77/24
[16.Ndf3∓ -0.33/24 was preferrable.]
16...exf5 17.Nf3 Qb6 18.b4 Na5 19.Rc1 Nc4 20.Bxc4 Rxc4 21.Nd2 Rc6 22.Nb3 Qc7 Black has more active pieces. **23.Nc5 a5 24.b5 Rd6** 0.11/24
[Better is 24...Rxc5!∓ -0.39/25 25.dxc5 Qxc5]
25.a4= Rc8 26.Nd3 -1.01/21
[26.c4!= 0.11/24]
26...Rdd8∓ 27.f3



Nd6 28.Ra1 Bh6 -0.55/21
[28...Bf6∓ -1.20/21 White must now prevent ...Bh4. 29.Rf1 f4 30.Nxf4 Nf5]
29.Bc1∓ Bxc1 30.Rxc1 Nc4 31.Qe2 Repels Re8 **31...Qd6** 0.00/22
[31...Nb6∓ -0.36/24 should be considered.]
32.Nc5 -0.85/25
[32.Qe7= 0.00/22 remains equal.]

(Diagram)



32...Rc7!∓ 33.Qf2 b6 -0.57/21
[33...h6∓ -1.09/24]
34.Nd3∓ Re7 0.00/26
[34...Kg7∓ -0.52/25]
35.Rxe7= Qxe7 36.Re1↑ White has some pressure. **36...Qg5 37.h4 Qf6 38.Nf4** 0.00/29
[38.Qg3!± 0.42/23]
38...Qd6 39.g3 Qa3 40.Qc2 Kf8 41.Kf2 Qb2 0.72/27
[41...Qd6= 0.00/28 keeps the balance.]
42.Qe2 0.00/24
[42.Qxb2± 0.72/27 Nxb2 43.Ra1]
42...Rd6 0.46/23
[42...h6= 0.00/24 deserves consideration.]
43.h5 0.00/29
[43.Qxb2± 0.46/23 Nxb2 44.Ra1]
43...g5 44.Nd3 Qxe2+ 45.Rxe2 Endgame. KRN-KRN **45...Re6 46.Ne5 Nxe5 47.dxe5** KR-KR **47...f4 48.gxf4 gxf4 49.c4** Deflection **49...dxc4 50.Re4 c3 51.Ke2**
[51.Rxf4 simplifies Rxe5 52.Rc4 Rxh5 53.Rxc3 Rh6 54.Rc8+]
51...f5 52.Rxf4 Rxe5+ 53.Kd3 Rc5 54.Kc2! Ke7 55.Rd4 Re5 56.Kxc3 Re3+ 57.Kc4 Rxf3 And now ...Ke6 would win. **58.Kd5** Strongly threatening Kc6. **58...Rc3 59.Ke5 Rc5+ 60.Kf4! h6 61.Rd2 Ke6** Threatens to win with ... Rc4+. **62.Rg2 Rc4+ 63.Ke3 Rg4**
[63...Rxa4!? 64.Rg6+□ Ke5=]
64.Rc2 Rxa4 65.Rc6+ Ke5 Hoping for ...Rh4. **66.Rxh6 Rh4 67.Rh8?** -6.10/22
[67.Kf3= -0.01/29]
67...a4-+ 68.h6 Kf6? 0.00/37
[Black should try 68...a3-+ -4.78/21 69.Kf3 a2 70.Re8+ Kf6]
69.Rb8= a3 70.Rxb6+ Ke5 71.Ra6 a2 72.b6 b7 is the strong threat. **72...Rh3+ 73.Kd2 Kd6 74.Rxa2?** -22.64/31
[74.Kc2= -0.01/30]
74...Rh2+-+ Skewer
[And not 74...Rxh6 75.Kc3=]
75.Kc3 Rxa2
Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.13 (very precise)
0-1

C55
□ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**
■ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (5.1) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

C55: Two Knights: 4 d3, 4 d4 exd4 5 e5 and Max Lange Attack
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Be7
[4...d5 5.exd5 Nxd5 6.0-0 Nb6 7.Bb5 Bd6 8.d4 e4 9.Re1 f5 10.Bg5 Qd7 11.c4 0-0 12.c5 exf3 13.cxb6 Qf7 14.Bxc6 bxc6 15.Qxf3 axb6 16.Nc3 f4 17.Qxc6 Bd7 18.Qd5 Qxd5 19.Nxd5 1-0 (41) Rojas Keim,L (2680)-Vasquez Bonifacio,L (2738) Metz op 28th 2010 (5.5)]

[4...Bc5 5.Nc3 h6 6.h3 d6 7.Na4 Bb6 8.a3 Ne7 9.Nxb6 axb6 10.Ba2 Ng6 11.0-0 0-0 12.Re1 Be6 13.Bb1 Re8 14.d4 c6 15.c3 Qc7 16.Be3 Rad8 17.a4 d5 18.Nxe5 Nxe5 19.dxe5 1-0 (38) Quist,J (2427)-14.♘e4 ♖b8 15.c4 ♖e8 20 (2165) 55/47 London 1992 (4)]

5.0-0 0-0 6.a4N

[6.Nc3 d6 7.a3 Bg4 8.h3 Bxf3 9.Qxf3 Nd4 10.Qd1 c6 11.f4 exf4 12.Rxf4 d5 13.exd5 cxd5 14.Ba2 Bc5 15.Kh1 Re8 16.Rf1 Ne6 17.g4 d4 18.Na4 Be7 19.g5 Nd7 20.Rxf7 Bd6 ½-½ (56) Edighoffer,H-Melton,R APCT King ch-1 1996]

6...d5 7.exd5 Nxd5 8.h3 Prevents Bg4. **8...Kh8 9.Re1 f6 10.a5** White has an edge. **10...Bf5 11.Nbd2 a6 12.Nb3** -0.22/23

[⌓12.Nf1 0.15/23]

12...b5= 13.axb6 Nxb6 14.Nfd2 Nxc4 15.Nxc4 Be6 16.Be3 Qd5 17.Nbd2 -0.58/22

[17.Bd2= -0.10/22]

17...f5 18.f3 Bh4 19.Rf1 a5 20.Bf2 Bf6 21.Re1 a4 22.Nb1 Qd7 -0.18/21

[22...Qb5!∓ -0.56/24 feels stronger.]

23.Nc3

(Diagram)

e4! 24.Nxa4 Hoping for Nc5.

[24.dxe4? Qxd1 25.Nxd1 Bxc4-+]

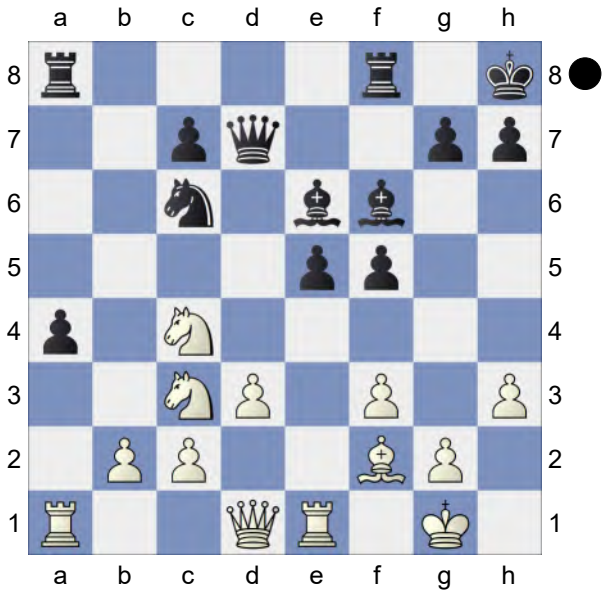
[24.Rxa4 seems wilder. Rxa4 25.Nxa4 Bd4 26.Bxd4 Qxd4+ 27.Kh1]

[24.Rxa4 Rxa4]

24...Bxc4

[24...Bd4 looks sharper. 25.Bxd4 Qxd4+ 26.Kh1 Bxc4 27.dxc4 e3]

25.dxc4 Qxd1 26.Rexd1 exf3 27.c3 fxg2 28.Nc5 Rxa1 29.Rxa1 Ne5



30.Ne6 Rc8 31.c5 Nxc7! is the strong threat. **31...Kg8 32.Ra7 c6**

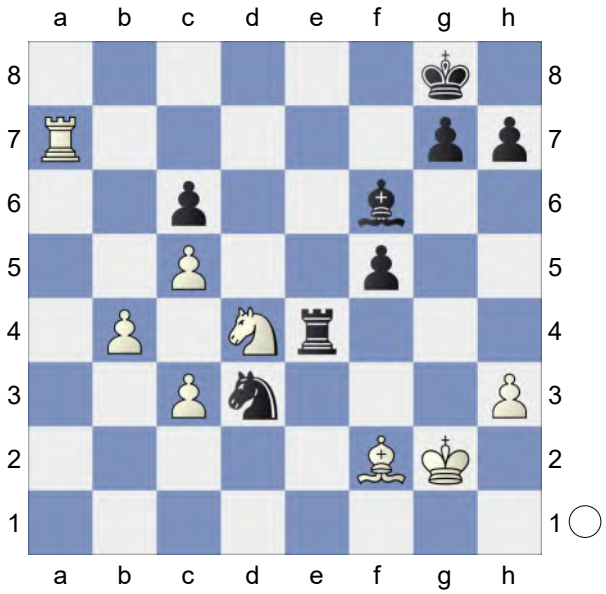
[32...Kf7 is interesting. 33.Rxc7+ Rxc7 34.Nxc7 Nd3]

33.Kxg2 Re8 34.Nd4 Nd3 35.b4

[35.Nxf5 Re2 36.Ra8+ Kf7 37.Nd6+ Ke6 *(37...Kg6 38.Kf3∓)* 38.Re8+ Be7-+]

35...Re4? 2.38/20

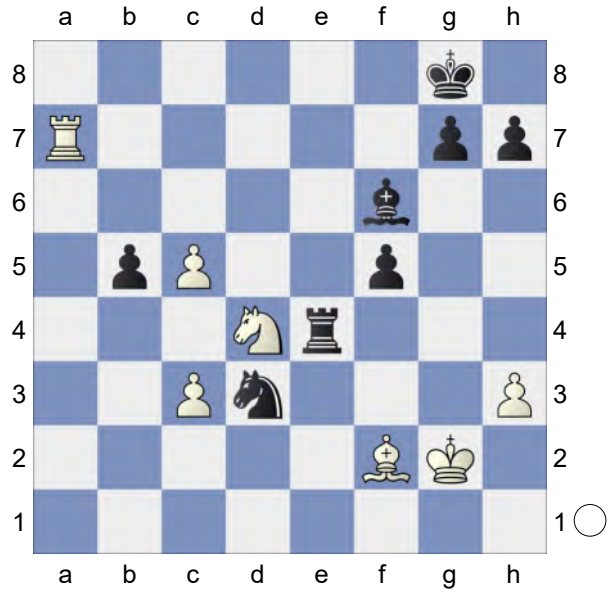
[35...g5= 0.27/22 and Black is okay.]



This costs Black the game. **36.b5!+-**

[36.Nxf5 Re2 37.Ra8+ Kf7 38.Nd6+

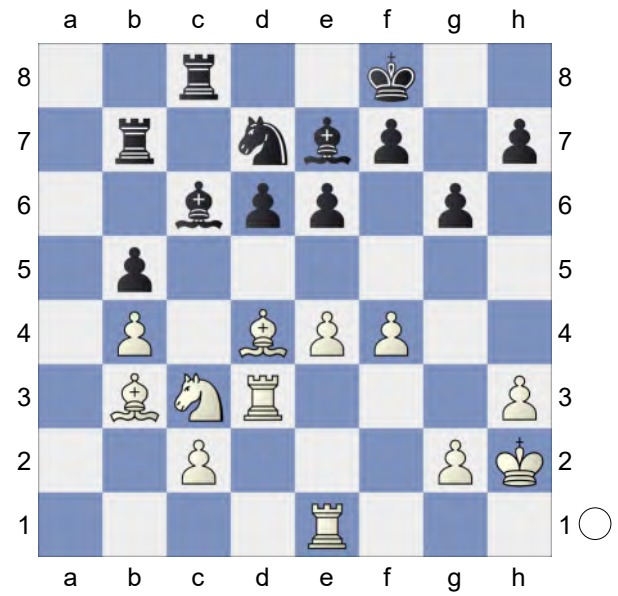
Kg6∓]
[36.Nxc6 Bxc3 37.Ne7+ *(37.b5 Re2=)* 37...Kf8 38.Nxf5 Bxb4±]
36...cxb5



37.c6 Re8 2.35/23 Repels Ra8
[Avoid the trap 37...Nxf2? 38.Ra8+ Kf7 39.c7 *(39.Kxf2 Bxd4+ 40.cxd4 Re8=)* 39...Nxh3 40.c8Q+- *(40.c8R?* perishes. *Nf4+ 41.Kf3 Kg6∓)*]
[37...Be5 1.93/22 was necessary. 38.c7 *(38.Nxb5 Re2∓)* 38...Bxc7]
38.Nxb5 Nxf2? 4.77/26
[38...Nf4+ 2.28/19 is a better defense. 39.Kf3 Ne6]
39.Kxf2 Endgame. KRB-KRN **39...Be5 40.Rd7 h5 41.c4 g5 42.c7 Bxc7 43.Nxc7** KRN-KR **43...Re4 44.c5 Rc4 45.Ne6 g4 46.hxg4 hxg4 47.Kg3 Rc3+ 48.Kf4 Rf3+ 49.Ke5** White mates. **49...g3 50.Kf6 g2 51.Rd8+**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.45
1-0

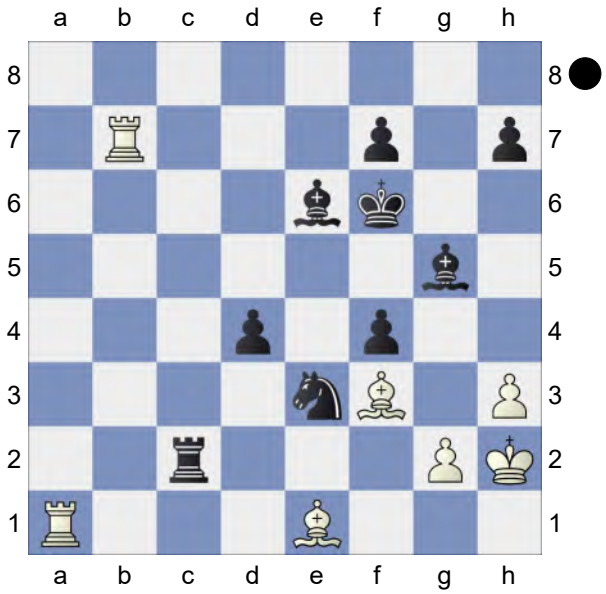
B51
□ **So,W** **2747**
■ **Aronian,L** **2747**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (5.1) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

B51: Sicilian: Moscow Variation (3 Bb5+) without 3...Bd7
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+
[3.c3 Nf6 4.Bd3 b6 5.0-0 Bb7 6.Re1 e6 7.Bc2 Be7 8.d4 0-0 9.Nbd2 Na6 10.Nf1 d5 11.e5 Ne4 12.Ng3 cxd4 13.cxd4 Rc8 14.a3 Qc7 15.Bd3 Nb8 16.Qe2 a6 17.Bd2 Nxd2 1-0 (34) Holliday,B (2440)-4.e3 ♗g4 5. ♗c4 e6_37934 (2270) 28/149 Smederevska Palanka 1979]
3...Nd7N
[3...Nc6 4.b3 Bd7 5.Bb2 a6 6.Bc4 Nf6 7.e5 dxe5 8.Nxe5 Nxe5 9.Bxe5 Bc6 10.0-0 e6 11.Re1 Nd7 12.Bb2 Qg5 13.Bf1 Bd6 14.d4 Nf6 15.d5 0-0-0 16.dxc6 Bxh2+ 17.Kxh2 Rxd1 18.cxb7+ 0-1 (30) Aarush,R (2097)-Borwell,A (2578) 42/131 Baku 1986 (8) Kxb7 19.Rxd1 Qh5+ 20.Kg1 Qxd1 21.Na3 Qh5 22.g3 Rd8 23.Bg2+ Kc8 24.Bxf6 Rd1+ 25.Rxd1 Qxd1+ 26.Kh2 gxf6 27.Be4 Qf1 28.Bd3 Qxf2+ 29.Kh3 f5 30.Nc4 Qg1 0-1 Katz,F (2097)-Abbasov,F (2578) Rohde op 08th 2008 (8)]
4.a4 Ngf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4 Qa5 7.Ba2 e6 8.Qe2 The position is equal. **8...Be7 9.0-0 0-0 10.d4 cxd4 11.Nxd4 Nb8 12.Be3 Nc6 13.Kh1 Bd7 14.f4 Qb4 15.Qd2 Rac8 16.Rab1 Nxd4 17.Qxd4 Qxd4 18.Bxd4 b5 19.axb5 axb5 20.b4 Rc7 21.h3 Rfc8 22.Rf3 Bc6 23.Re1 g6 24.Bb3 Nd7** 0.00/21
[24...h5∓ -0.41/19]
25.Kh2 Kf8 26.Rd3 Rb7
(Diagram)



27.f5! exf5
[27...gxf5 28.exf5]
28.exf5 Ne5 29.Rdd1 gxf5 30.Rf1 Bd7 31.Nd5↑ White has the initiative.
31...Bg5 0.90/20
[31...Be6± 0.34/20]
32.Nb6± Rxb6 33.Bxb6 Ke7 34.Bd4 0.56/17
[34.Ra1± 0.94/21]
34...Be6± 35.Ra1 Nc6 Prevents Ra7+.
36.Bc3 d5? 2.20/20
[36...Be3!= 0.28/19 and Black has nothing to worry.]
37.Ra6? 0.29/21
[37.Bxd5!+- 2.20/20 Strongly threatening Rf3! Ke8 *(37...Bxd5? 38.Rxf5 Nd8 39.Rxg5+-)* 38.Ra8]
37...Be3= 38.Be1 d4 39.Bh4+ Kd7 40.Rb6 Threatens to win with Rb7+.
40...Nxb4 41.Rxb5 Nxc2 42.Ba4 Kd6 43.Bg3+ Ke7 44.Rb7+ White has compensation. **44...Kf6 45.Bb5 Bg5** aiming for ...Ne3. **46.Bd3** -1.06/21
[46.Rc7∓ -0.31/19]
46...Ne3∓ Hoping for ...Rc3! **47.Ra1?** -3.30/18
[47.Rf3∓ -0.78/18]
47...Rc3-+ 48.Be2 f4 49.Be1 Rc2

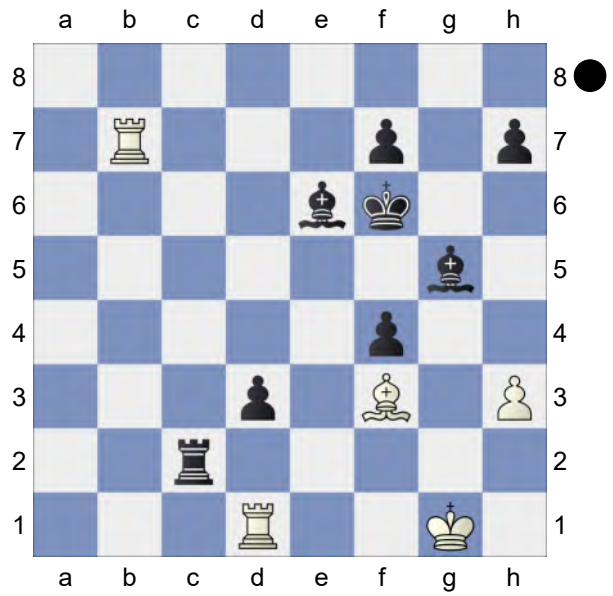
50.Bf3



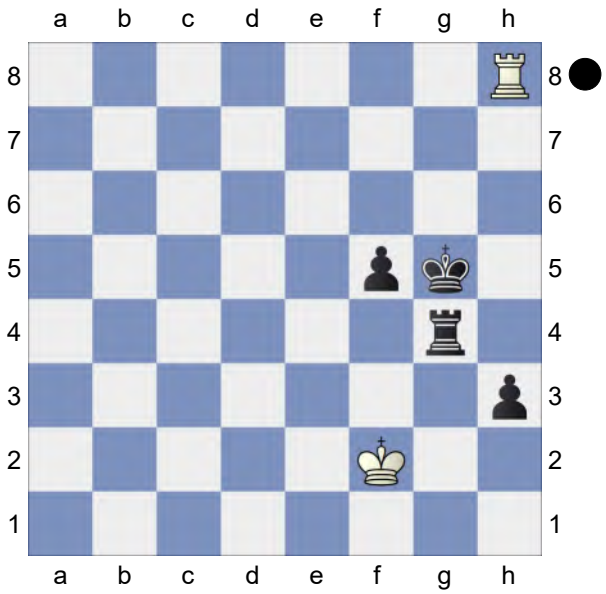
Nxg2 51.Kg1
[51.Bxg2? f3 52.Rb6 Bf4+ *(52...Rxg2+? 53.Kh1-+; 52...fxg2? 53.Ra3-+)* 53.Kg1 Be3+-+ *(53...Rxg2+? 54.Kh1-+; 53...fxg2? 54.Bf2-+; 53...Rxg2+? 54.Kh1-+; 53...fxg2? 54.Bf2-+)*]
51...Nxe1
[51...Bxh3 52.Bb4 Nh4 53.Be4=]
52.Rxe1 d3 -1.92/20
[52...Bxh3 53.Rd1-+]
[⌓52...Bh4 -3.70/20 53.Rxe6+ fxe6 *(53...Kxe6? 54.Bg4+ Kf6 55.Bh5-+)* 54.Rxh7 Bf2+ 55.Kh1 d3]
53.Rd1 -2.61/18
[⌓53.Re4 -1.92/20]

(Diagram)

53...d2! White must now prevent ...Rc3!
[53...Bxh3 54.Rxd3 Bc8 55.Rd6+ Kg7 56.Rb5∓]
54.Rb4 -3.40/18
[⌓54.Kg2 -2.31/19]
54...Rc3
[54...Bxh3 55.Kh2 Rc3 56.Be4-+]



55.Kg2 -4.79/20
[⌓55.h4 -3.42/18 Bxh4 56.Kg2]
55...Rd3? -0.35/17
[Black should play 55...Bxh3+!-+ -4.79/20 56.Kxh3 Rxf3+ 57.Kh2 Rd3]
56.Rb2!∓ Bd5 -0.04/21
[Black should try 56...Bxh3+∓ -0.67/21 57.Kxh3 Rxf3+ 58.Kh2 h5 *(58...Rf2+ 59.Kg1∓)*]
57.Bxd5!= Rxd5 Endgame. KRR-KRB **58.Kf2 f3** Decoy **59.Kxf3 Rd3+ 60.Kg2 Rd4 61.Kf3**
[61.h4 simplifies Rxh4 62.Rbxd2 Bxd2 63.Rxd2 Rb4 64.Kg3]
61...Kg6 62.Ke2 f6 63.Rf1 Rh4 64.Rb3
[64.Rxd2 simplifies Bxd2 65.Kxd2 Rxh3 66.Ke2]
64...Rc4 65.Rg3 Kh5 And now ...Re4+ would win. **66.Rgf3 Rc1 67.Rd1 Rc5 68.Rxd2**
[68.Rd3 is interesting. Rc4 69.Kf2 Rc2 70.Rd4]
68...Re5+ 69.Kd1 Bxd2 70.Kxd2 KR-KR **70...f5 71.Kd3 Kg5 72.Kd4?** -4.74/28
[72.Kd2= -0.07/32]
72...Re4+? -0.07/25
[72...Ra5-+ -4.74/28 73.Rg3+ Kf4]
73.Kd3 Re1 74.Rg3+? -8.05/31
[74.Kd2= -0.07/33 Re8 75.Rg3+ Kh4 76.Rf3]
74...Kf4-+ 75.Rg7 Re3+ 76.Kd2 h5
[Weaker is 76...Rxh3 77.Ke2∓]
77.h4 Rg3? -0.10/20
[77...Rh3-+ -7.22/24 78.Rf7 Rxh4]
78.Rf7? -8.13/34
[78.Rh7= -0.10/20]
78...Rh3 79.Ke2 Rxh4 80.Kf2 Rg4? -0.06/35
[80...Rh2+-+ -7.55/34 81.Kg1 Rc2]
81.Ra7= h4 82.Ra4+ Kg5 83.Ra8 h3 84.Rh8? -#29/17
[84.Rc8= -0.06/23]



84...Rh4! 85.Rg8+ Kf4 86.Rg1 h2 87.Rh1 Rh8 -13.89/16
[⌓87...Kg4 -115.24/20 88.Kg2 f4 89.Rxh2 f3+ *(89...Rxh2+* is a self mate. *90.Kxh2 f3 91.Kg1 Kg3 92.Kh1 Kf2 93.Kh2 Ke3 94.Kh3 f2 95.Kg2 Ke2 96.Kh3 f1Q+ 97.Kg4 Qf6 98.Kh5 Ke3 99.Kg4 Qg6+ 100.Kh3 Kf3 101.Kh4 Qh6#)* 90.Kg1 Rxh2 91.Kxh2 Kf4 92.Kh3 Ke3

93.Kg4 f2 94.Kf5 f1Q+ *(94...f1R+ 95.Ke6 Kd4 96.Kd6 Rf6+ 97.Ke7 Ke5 98.Kd7 Rh6 99.Kc7 Kd5 100.Kd7 Rh7+ 101.Ke8 Ke6 102.Kd8 Rf7 103.Kc8 Kd6 104.Kb8 Kc6 105.Ka8 Kb6 106.Kb8 Rf8#)* 95.Ke5 Qf7 96.Kd6 Kd4 97.Kc6 Qf6+ 98.Kd7 Kc5 99.Ke8 Qg7 100.Kd8 Kd6 101.Ke8 Qg8#]

88.Kg2 Kg4 89.Kf2 Kh3

Weighted Error Value: White=0.31/ Black=0.31

0-1

C55

□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
■ **Carlsen,M** **2831**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (5.1) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

C55: Two Knights: 4 d3, 4 d4 exd4 5 e5 and Max Lange Attack

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Be7

[4...d5 5.exd5 Nxd5 6.0-0 Nb6 7.Bb5 Bd6 8.d4 e4 9.Re1 f5 10.Bg5 Qd7 11.c4 0-0 12.c5 exf3 13.cxb6 Qf7 14.Bxc6 bxc6 15.Qxf3 axb6 16.Nc3 f4 17.Qxc6 Bd7 18.Qd5 Qxd5 19.Nxd5 1-0 (41) Rojas Keim,L (2680)-Vasquez Bonifacio,L (2738) Metz op 28th 2010 (5.5)]

[4...Bc5 5.Nc3 h6 6.h3 d6 7.Na4 Bb6 8.a3 Ne7 9.Nxb6 axb6 10.Ba2 Ng6 11.0-0 0-0 12.Re1 Be6 13.Bb1 Re8 14.d4 c6 15.c3 Qc7 16.Be3 Rad8 17.a4 d5 18.Nxe5 Nxe5 19.dxe5 1-0 (38) Quist,J (2427)-14.♘e4 ♖b8 15.c4 ♖e8_20 (2165) 55/47 London 1992 (4)]

5.0-0 0-0 6.Nc3 d6 7.a4N

[7.a3 Bg4 8.h3 Bxf3 9.Qxf3 Nd4 10.Qd1 c6 11.f4 exf4 12.Rxf4 d5 13.exd5 cxd5 14.Ba2 Bc5 15.Kh1 Re8 16.Rf1 Ne6 17.g4 d4 18.Na4 Be7 19.g5 Nd7 20.Rxf7 Bd6 21.Rf5 Qc7 ½-½ (56) Edighoffer,H-Melton,R APCT King ch-1 1996]

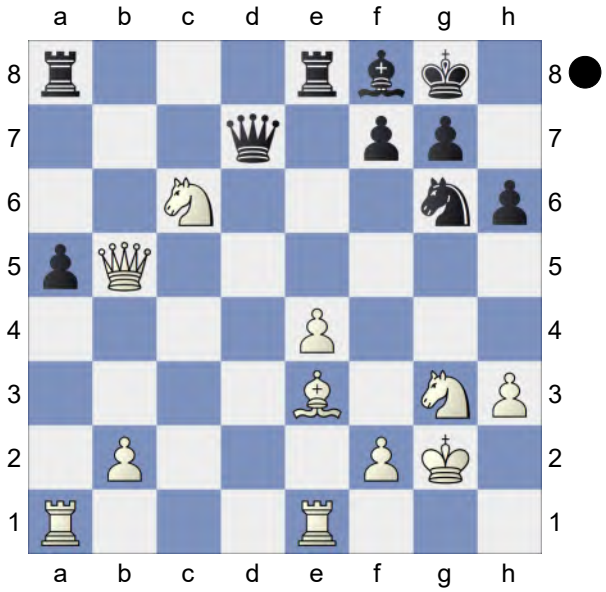
7...a5 8.Re1 h6 9.h3 White is slightly better. **9...Re8 10.Ne2 Bf8 11.Ng3 Be6 12.Bb5 Bd7 13.c3 Ne7 14.d4 Bxb5 15.axb5 exd4 16.Nxd4 Ng6 17.c4 c6 18.bxc6 bxc6 19.Nxc6 Qc7 20.Qa4 d5 21.cxd5 Nxd5 22.Bd2**

[22.Nxa5 Nb4 23.Bd2 Nd3=]

22...Ndf4 23.Qb5 Inhibits Nd3.

[23.Nxa5 Nd3 24.Re2 Red8]

23...Nxg2 24.Kxg2 Qd7 Prevents Nf5. **25.Be3**



Black must now prevent Nf5! **25...Nh4+ 26.Kf1 Rab8 27.Qd5**

[27.Nxb8? Qxb5+ 28.Ne2 Rxb8-+ *(28...Qxb8? 29.Nc3-+)*]

27...Qxh3+ 28.Ke2 Rxb2+ 29.Kd3! Threatens to win with Rab1! **29...Ng2!** aiming for ...Rxf2! **30.Re2 Rb7** Hoping for ...Rd7. **31.Qf5**

[31.Rxa5? Rd7-+]

31...Qh4 32.Rh1

[32.Qxa5 Rb3+ 33.Kc2 Rxe3 34.fxe3 Qxg3-+]

32...Nxe3 0.92/26

[32...Rd8+!= 0.19/23 33.Kc2 *(33.Nxd8? Qxd8+ 34.Bd4 Rd7-+)* 33...Rd6 34.Rxh4 *(34.Nxa5? Rc7+ 35.Kb2 Qe7-+)* 34...Rxc6+ 35.Kd3 Nxh4]

33.Rxe3

[33.Rxh4 Rb3+ 34.Kd2 Nxf5 35.exf5 *(35.Nxf5 Rb6=)* 35...Rb2+ 36.Kd3 Rexe2 37.Nxe2 Rb3+ 38.Kd2 Rf3=]

[33.Kxe3 looks sharper. Rb3+ 34.Kd4 Qg5 35.Qxg5 hxg5 36.Nf5]

33...Qg5 34.Qxg5

[34.Qxa5 Qf6 35.Qd5 Qxf2∓]

[34.Nxa5 Qd8+ 35.Ke2 Rb2+ 36.Kf1 g6-+]

34...hxg5 35.Nxa5 0.33/22

[35.Nf5± 0.76/22]

35...Rd8+± 36.Ke2 Rb2+ 37.Kf3 Nc4 is the strong threat. **37...Bc5! 38.Nc4 Rc2 39.Ne5**

[But not 39.Na3 Ra2 40.Nc4 Rc2±]

39...Bxe3 40.fxe3 f6 41.Ng4 Kf7 42.e5 Ke6 43.exf6 0.13/21

[43.Ra1± 0.58/24 might be stronger. Rc6 *(43...fxe5 44.Ra6+ Kd5 45.e4+ Kc5 46.Nxe5+-)* 44.exf6 gxf6 45.Nh6]

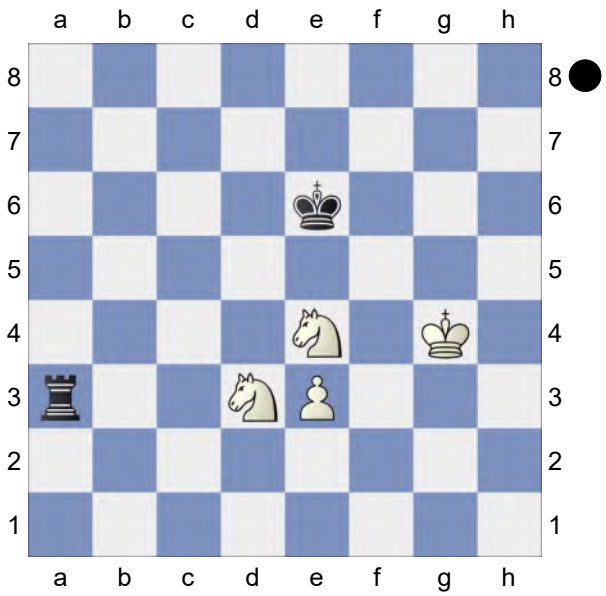
43...gxf6= 44.Rh6 Rf8 45.Ne4 Ke7! The position is equal. **46.Rxf6 Rxf6+ 47.Nexf6 Ke6 48.Ne4 Ra2 49.Ngf2 g4+ 50.Kxg4 Ra3 51.Nd3**

(Diagram)

Decoy **51...Rxd3 52.Nc5+ Ke5 53.Nxd3+ Ke4 54.Nf2+ Kxe3**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)

½-½



C49

□ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**

■ **Keymer,Vincent** **2733**

CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (5.1) 18.12.24

[Kitty Kat]

C49: Four Knights: 4 Bb5 Bb4

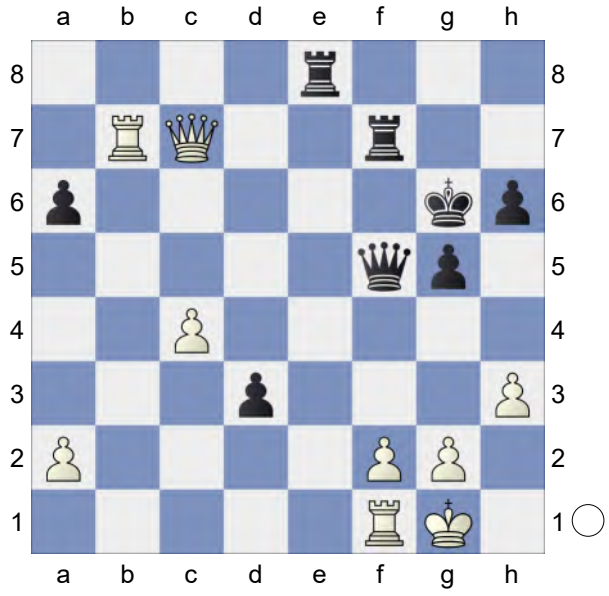
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bb5 Bb4 5.0-0 0-0 6.d3 Bxc3 7.bxc3 d6 8.Bg5 h6 9.Bh4 a6 10.Bxc6

[10.Bc4 Na5 11.Bb3 Qe7 12.Qd2 Nxb3 13.axb3 Qe6 14.Rfe1 Nh5 15.d4 Re8 16.Bg3 Qf6 17.dxe5 dxe5 18.Qd5 Nxg3 19.hxg3 Rb8 20.Qc5 Qe7 21.Ra5 f6 22.Qe3 Be6 23.Nh4 Qd6 24.f4 Qb6 0-1 (56) Bashirli,N (2343)-Levitan,R (2185) EU-ch 23rd Vrnjacka Banja 2023 (5)]

10...bxc6 11.Rb1N

[11.h3 Qe7 12.Rb1 Qe6 13.Bxf6 Qxf6 14.Nd2 Qg6 15.Kh2 f5 16.f3 Be6 17.Rb7 Rf7 18.Qb1 Qg5 19.exf5 Qf4+ 20.Kh1 Bxf5 21.Ne4 Bxe4 22.dxe4 Raf8 23.Qb3 Kh7 24.Qc4 d5 25.Qxc6 Rf6 0-1 (31) Naiditsch,A (2664)-Le,Q (2722) Biel

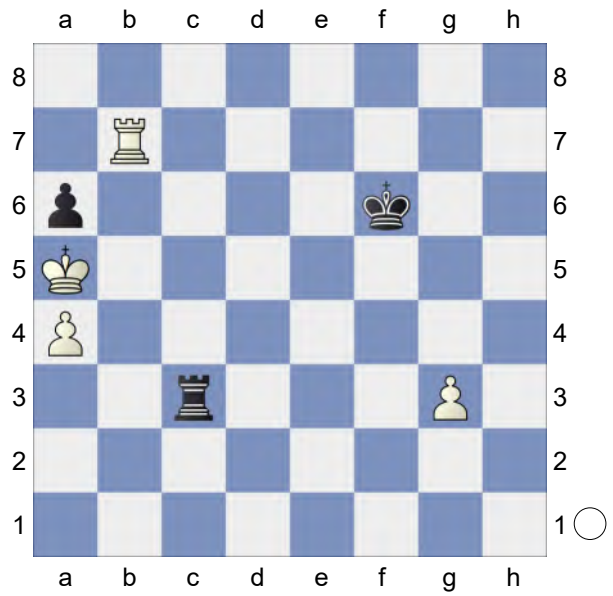
blitz 55th 2022 (8)]
11...c5 12.c4 -0.22/22
[⌓12.d4 0.30/18]
12...Bg4= 13.h3 Black has an edge.
13...Bxf3 14.Qxf3 g5 15.Bg3 Kg7 16.Rb3 Qd7 17.Rfb1 Ng8 18.c3 Ne7 19.d4 cxd4 20.cxd4 exd4 21.e5 0.01/21
[21.c5!± 0.39/21]
21...dxe5 0.37/18
[21...Nf5= 0.01/21 might be stronger.]
22.Bxe5+± f6! 23.Bxf6+ Deflection
23...Kg6? 2.77/24
[23...Kg8!= 0.28/19 24.Qe4 Nf5]
24.Qe4+? 0.25/20
[24.Qd3+!+- 2.77/24 Kxf6 25.Qh7]
24...Qf5!=
[24...Kxf6 25.Qh7 g4 *(25...Qf5? 26.Rf3+-)* 26.hxg4]
25.Qxe7 Threatening mate with Qg7+.
25...Rxf6 26.Rf1 The board is on fire.
26...d3 0.52/23
[26...c6= 0.16/19]
27.Qxc7± aiming for Rb7. **27...Re8** 1.25/20
[27...Raf8± 0.40/22]
28.Rb7!± g4 would kill now. **28...Rf7**



29.Qc6+ 0.00/22
[29.Rb6+!± 1.06/25 Re6 30.Qd8 Rxb6 31.Qxb6+ Qf6 32.c5]
29...Re6= 30.Qc8 Rxb7 31.Qxb7 Endgame. KQR-KQR **31...Rd6** 0.51/22
[31...d2= 0.00/22 32.Qd7 Re2 33.Qd6+ Qe6 34.Qd3+ Kg7]
32.Qb8 Qe6 Wards off Qg8+ **33.c5 Rd7 34.Rd1** Qb1 would now be deadly.
34...d2! 35.Qb6 Kf7 0.92/19
[35...Qxb6± 0.33/24 36.cxb6 Kf7]
36.Qxe6+ 0.12/21
[Better is 36.c6± 0.92/19]
36...Kxe6± KR-KR **37.Kf1 Rd5 38.Ke2 Rxc5 39.Rxd2 Ra5 40.Kd3 h5 41.Kc4 g4 42.hxg4 hxg4 43.Re2+ Kf6 44.g3 Rf5** 0.73/28
[44...Kg6= 0.12/30 remains equal.]
45.a4 Kf7 0.97/26
[45...Ra5± 0.60/28 is superior.]
46.Re4 0.11/17
[46.Rb2± 0.97/26]
46...Rxf2= 47.Rxg4 Black must now prevent Rf4+. **47...Rc2+ 48.Kb4 Rc6** 0.49/28
[48...Rc8= 0.06/28]
49.Ka5 0.06/35
[49.Rf4+!± 0.49/28 Ke7 50.Re4+ Kf6 51.g4]
49...Ke7 0.44/28
[49...Re6= 0.06/35 was preferrable.]
50.Rg7+ Kf6? 6.03/25
[50...Kf8= 0.12/23 51.Rg4 Ke8]
51.Rb7+- Threatens to win with Rb6. White is clearly winning.
[51.Ra7 Rc3±]
51...Rc3

(Diagram)

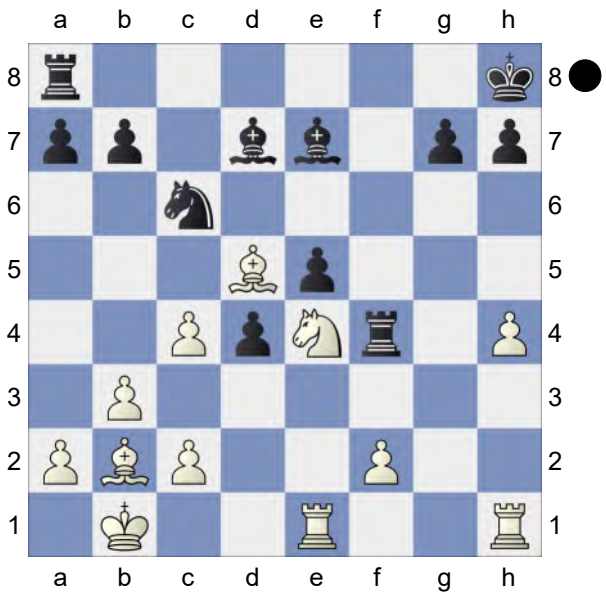
52.g4
[Inferior is 52.Kxa6 Rxg3 53.Rb4 Rd3=]



52...Rg3 53.Rb4
[Weaker is 53.Kxa6 Rxg4 54.a5 Ke5=]
53...Ke6 54.Kxa6 Kf7 55.a5 Kg7 56.Kb7 Hoping for a6. **56...Re3 57.a6** And now a7 would win. **57...Re7+ 58.Kb6 Re6+ 59.Ka5** White wants to mate with Rb7+. **59...Re5+ 60.Rb5 Re1 61.a7**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.44
1-0

A06
□ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**
■ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (5.2) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

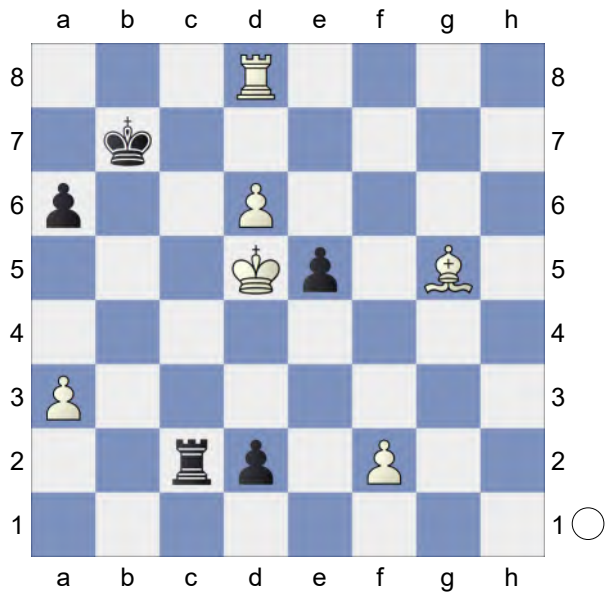
A06: Réti Opening: 1 Nf3 d5
1.Nf3 d5 2.b3 Nf6 3.Bb2 e6 4.e3 Be7 5.g4N
[5.Be2 0-0 6.0-0 b6 *(6...Ne4 7.d3 Bf6 8.Ne5 Nd7 9.f4 Nd6 10.Rf3 Nf5 11.Nd2 Nh4 12.Rh3 Bxe5 13.fxe5 c5 14.d4 a6 15.Bd3 g6 16.Qg4 Nf5 17.Rf1 h5 18.Qf4 Ng7 19.Qh6 Re8 20.e4 cxd4 21.exd5* 1-0 (41) Doettling,F (2540)-Kovacevic,B (2461) Mitropa Cup 21st 2002 (1.3)*; 6...c5 7.Ne5 Nfd7 8.f4 Nxe5 9.Bxe5 Nc6 10.Bb5 Bd7 11.Bxc6 Bxc6 12.d4 f6 13.Qg4 f5 14.Qh5 g6 15.Qe2 Qb6 16.Qf3 c4* 0-1 10.♕e1 (1544)-Eniashin,K (1957) Chelyabinsk (rapid) 146/193 2020 (2)*)* 7.d3 *(7.d4 Bb7 8.Nbd2 Nbd7 9.c4 dxc4 10.bxc4 c5 11.Rc1 Rc8 12.Bd3 Qc7 13.Bb1 Rfd8 14.Qe2 Nf8 15.Nb3 cxd4 16.Nbxd4 N8d7* 10) Queen/^s Gambit Declined-Queen/^s Gambit Declined Odds 1... e6 Against Everything 2024*)* 7...Bb7 8.Nbd2 c5 9.Ne5 Nc6 10.f4 Nd7 11.Ndf3 Ndxe5 12.Nxe5 Nxe5 13.Bxe5 d4 14.f5 Qd5 15.Bf3 Qxe5 16.Bxb7 Rab8 17.Be4 dxe3 18.Qf3 exf5 19.Bxf5 Bd6 0-1 (34) 12.♕c2 ♖c8-Goncalves,M 72/360 Nederland 1998 (1)]
5...0-0! 6.g5 Ne4 7.h4 c5 8.Nc3 The position is equal. **8...Nxc3 9.dxc3 Nc6** 0.27/18
[⌓9...Qa5! -0.30/18]
10.c4= Qa5+ 11.Qd2 Qxd2+! 12.Nxd2 d4 13.exd4 0.02/22
[13.0-0-0± 0.48/21 deserves consideration.]
13...cxd4 0.39/20
[13...Nxd4= 0.02/22 was preferrable. 14.Bd3 f6]
14.0-0-0 e5 15.Bg2 f6 16.gxf6 0.34/17
[White should try 16.f4± 0.88/21]
16...Rxf6± 17.Bd5+ Kh8 18.Rde1 Black must now prevent Bxc6. **18...Bd7 19.Ne4** 0.00/20
[19.Nf3± 0.42/19 Rf5 20.Ng5]
19...Rf4= 20.Kb1 -0.79/23
[20.a3= 0.00/20 remains equal.]



20...Raf8 -0.13/21
[20...Bxh4?! 21.Bc1 Bxf2 22.Bxf4 *(22.Re2 Be3±)* 22...Bxe1 23.Ng5±]
[20...Rxh4 21.Rxh4 Bxh4 22.Nc5+-]
[20...Nb4!∓ -0.79/23 21.Ng5 *(21.Bxb7 Rb8∓)* 21...Nxd5 *(21...Rxf2 22.Bxd4 exd4 23.Rxe7+-)* 22.cxd5 Bd6 *(22...Rxf2 23.Bxd4* Pin *Rg2 24.Bxe5±)*]
21.h5 h6 22.Bc1 R4f5 23.a3 Be8 24.b4 Rxh5 25.Rxh5 Bxh5 26.b5 Nd8 27.c5 -0.36/20
[27.Ng3= 0.25/20 Bg6 *(27...Bf7 28.Rxe5 Bf6 29.Re2±)* 28.Rxe5]
27...Bf7∓ 28.Bxf7 Nxf7
[28...Rxf7?! 29.c3±]
29.Bd2 -0.87/20
[29.c3∓ -0.51/21]
29...Rc8∓ 30.Bb4 Kg8 -0.16/26
[30...Kh7∓ -0.61/21 is superior.]
31.Kb2 a5 32.bxa6 bxa6 33.Kb3 Nd8 34.Kc4 Nc6 1.12/21
[34...Ne6= -0.06/23]
35.Kd5 White has strong compensation.
35...Kf7 1.34/18
[⌓35...h5 0.96/17]
36.Bd2
[36.Nd6+ Bxd6 37.cxd6 Nxb4+ 38.axb4 Rxc2=]
36...Ke8 2.19/21
[36...Bf8± 1.43/19 37.Rb1 Ne7+ 38.Kxe5 Ng6+ 39.Kxd4 Rd8+ 40.Ke3 Ne5]
37.Rg1 1.21/19
[37.f4+- 2.19/21]
37...Bf8± 38.Nd6+ Bxd6 39.cxd6 Endgame. KRB-KRN **39...g5** 4.51/22 Black cannot hold the game after this.
[39...Kf7± 1.08/22]
40.Rh1+- White is clearly winning.
40...Nd8 41.Rxh6 Rxc2 42.Rh8+ Kd7 43.Rh7+
[43.Bxg5 Nf7 44.Rh7 Rxf2∓]
43...Kc8 44.Bxg5 White wants to mate with d7+. **44...d3** 8.91/24
[⌓44...Nb7 4.78/18 45.Rxb7 Promotion *(45.Kxe5 Rc5+ 46.Kf4 Nxd6∓)* 45...Kxb7]
45.Rh8
[45.Kxe5 Re2+ *(45...Rxf2 46.Rh8±; 45...d2 46.Bxd2 Rxd2 47.Rc7+ Kb8 48.f4∓)* 46.Kf6 Rxf2+ 47.Kg6 d2 48.d7+ Kc7∓]
45...d2 46.Rxd8+
[46.Bxd8 d1Q+ *(46...d1B? 47.Ba5+ Kb7 48.Rh7+ Kb8 49.d7+-)* 47.Ke6 Qg4+ *(47...Rxf2 48.Bh4+ Kb7 49.Rh7+ Kc6 50.Rc7+ Kb5 51.Bxf2=)* 48.Kf7 Rxf2+ *(48...Kd7? 49.Bb6-+)* 49.Bf6+ Kd7 50.Rh7 Qe6+ *(50...Kxd6? 51.Rh6-+)* 51.Kf8+ Kxd6 52.Rf7 Rxf6 53.Rxf6 Qxf6+ 54.Kg8 Ke7 55.a4 Qg6+ 56.Kh8 Kf6 57.a5 Qg7#]
46...Kb7

(Diagram)

47.Bxd2! Rxd2+ 48.Ke6!
[48.Kxe5 Rxf2 49.Kd5 Rd2+ 50.Ke6 Re2+ 51.Kd7 Ra2=]

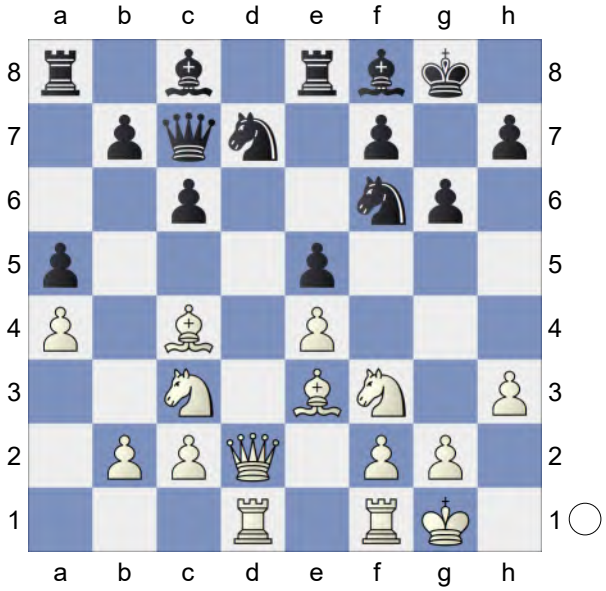


48...Rxf2 49.d7
Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) /Black=0.39
[Not 49.Kxe5 Ra2±]
1-0

B08

□ **Aronian,L** **2747**
■ **So,W** **2747**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (5.2) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

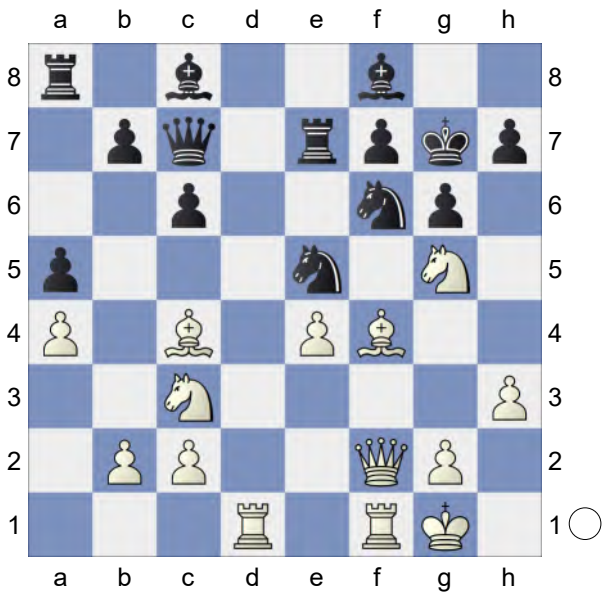
B08: Pirc Defence: Classical System
1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Be2 0-0 6.0-0 c6 7.a4 Qc7 8.Be3 e5 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.Bc4
[10.a5 Bg4 11.Bc4 Rd8 12.Qe2 Qe7 13.h3 Bxf3 14.Qxf3 Nbd7 15.Nb1 b5 16.axb6 axb6 17.Rxa8 Rxa8 18.c3 b5 19.Bd3 Qf8 20.Bg5 h6 21.Bc1 h5 22.Nd2 Bh6 23.b4 Kg7 24.Qe2 Ra2 ½-½ (43) Harikrishna,P (2669)-Ivanchuk,V (2768) WchT 8th Ningbo 2011 (3.1)]
10...Nbd7 11.h3 White is much more active. **11...a5**
[11...Nh5 12.a5 Nf4 13.Qd2 Nf6 14.Rfd1 Ne6 15.Qd6 Qxd6 16.Rxd6 Ne8 17.Rd2 N8c7 18.Rad1 Re8 19.Na4 h6 20.c3 Kh7 21.b4 f5 22.exf5 gxf5 23.Nh4 f4 24.Bc5 e4 25.Bd6 Nb5 26.Rc1 Pirc Defence-8. h3 Nbd7 9.Be3 e5 Survey 2015]
12.Qd2 Re8N 1.66/20
[12...b6± 1.08/20]
[12...Nb6 13.Bb3 Rd8 14.Qe2 Nbd7 15.Bxf7+ Kh8 16.Ng5 Nf8 17.Bb3 Rd7 18.f4 h6 19.fxe5 Qxe5 20.Qc4 Nd5 21.Nf3 Qe8 22.Bd4 b5 23.axb5 cxb5 24.Nxb5 1-0 Browne,W-Evans,L Lone Pine op Louis D. Statham Masters 1973 (6)]
13.Rad1 0.67/17
[13.Ng5+- 1.66/20 Re7 14.Nf3]
13...Bf8? 2.89/20
[13...Nf8!± 0.67/17]



This move loses the game for Black.
14.Ng5+- Re7 15.f4 exf4 4.08/20
[⌓15...b6 2.66/18 16.Bb3 Nc5]
16.Bxf4 Ne5 17.Qf2 Kg7

(Diagram)

18.Nxf7! Rxf7 19.Bxf7 Kxf7 20.Bg5

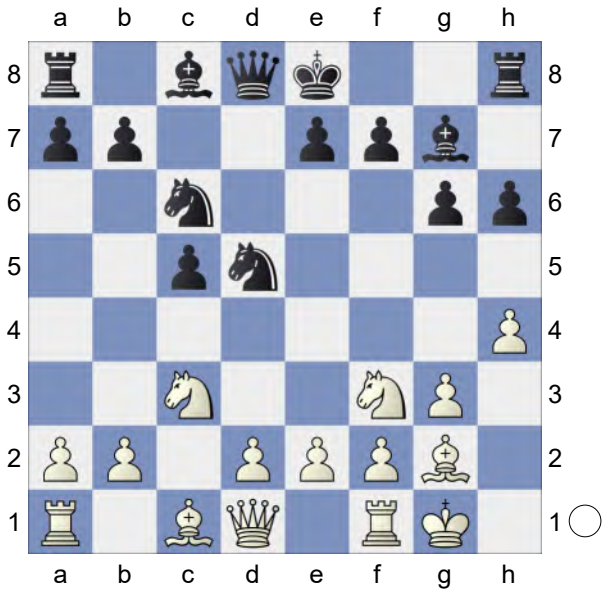


Weighted Error Value: White=0.31/ Black=1.10
1-0

A15

□ **Carlsen,M** **2831**
■ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (5.2) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

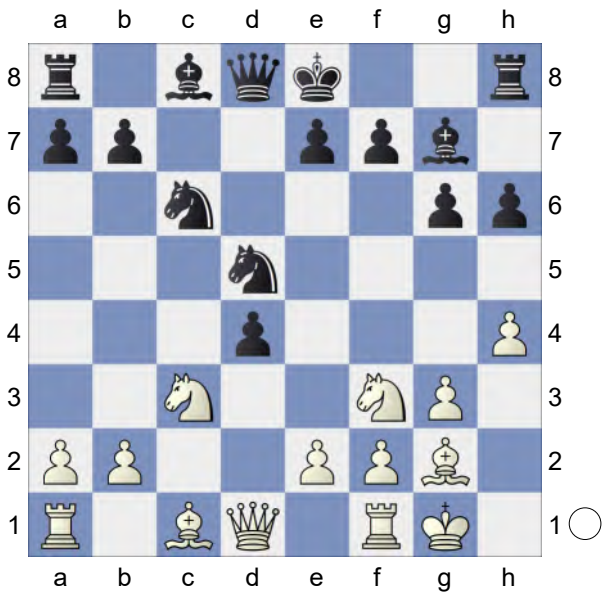
A34: Symmetrical English: 2 Nc3, lines with ...d5
1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.g3 Nc6 4.Bg2 d5 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.Nc3 g6N
[6...Nxc3 7.bxc3 e5 8.0-0 Be7 9.d3 0-0 10.Rb1 Qc7 *(10...Rb8 11.Ne1 Be6 12.Qa4 Qd7 13.f4 b5 14.Qe4 Na5 15.f5 Bxa2 16.Rb2 Bb3 17.Qxe5 Bf6 18.Qxc5 Rbc8 19.Qa3 Bxc3 20.Rxb3 Nxb3 21.Qxb3 Bd4+ 22.e3 Rxc1 23.exd4 Qxd4+ 24.Kh1 Qe3 25.Qb4* 0-1 (60) Bluemich,M-Richter,K DSB-26 Meisterschaft von Deutschland-24 1929 (13)*)* 11.Nd2 *(11.Be3 Be6 12.Qa4 b6 13.Nd2 Rac8 14.f4 exf4 15.Bxf4 Qd7 16.Nc4 Rfd8 17.Bxc6 Qxc6 18.Qxa7 Bxc4 19.dxc4 Qe4 20.Qxb6 Bf6* N,N-N,N 4.g3*)* 11...Be6 12.Qa4 Rac8 13.Nc4 b6 14.Qb5 Bd7 15.Qa6 Nb8 16.Qb7 Qxb7 17.Bxb7 Rc7 18.Bd5 Bc6 19.Ne3 Bg5 20.f4 exf4 21.gxf4 ½-½ (33) Flores,D (2533)-Paravyan,D (2612) Aimchess Rapid Div 2 W 2023 (1.4)]
7.h4 h6 8.0-0 Bg7



Repels d4 **9.d4!** White is slightly better.
9...cxd4
[9...Bxd4? perishes. 10.Nxd5 Qxd5 11.e3+-]

(Diagram)

10.Nxd4 Nxd4
[10...Nxc3 11.bxc3]
11.Nxd5 Bh3 Deflection **12.Bxh3 Qxd5** The position is equal. **13.e3 Nf3+ 14.Kh1 Qxd1 15.Rxd1 0-0 16.Kg2**
[16.Bg2!? Ne5□ 17.Bxb7-+]
16...Ne5 17.b3 Nd3 Discovered Attack **18.Rb1 Rfd8 19.Ba3 e6 20.Kf1 Rac8** ...Rc2 is the strong threat. **21.Bg2 b5 22.Be7** This pair of bishops is nice. **22...Rd7 23.Bb4 Bc3 24.Bxc3 Rxc3**



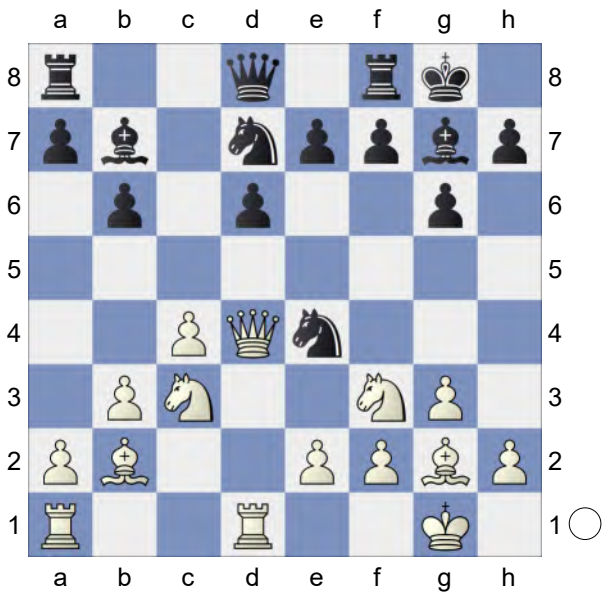
25.Be4 b4 26.Bxd3 Rdxd3 27.Rxd3 Rxd3= Endgame. KR-KR **28.Rb2 Rc3 29.Rd2 a5 30.Rd8+ Kg7** Hoping for ... Rc2. **31.Ra8 Rc5 32.Ra7 g5 33.hxg5 hxg5 34.g4 Kg6 35.Ra6 Kf6 36.Kg2 Ke5 37.Kf3 Kf6 38.Kg3 Kg6** Not much happened in this game.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.01 (flawless)
½-½

A15
□ **Keymer,Vincent** **2733**
■ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (5.2) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

A30: Symmetrical English: Double Fianchetto and Hedgehog
1.c4 Nf6 2.Nf3 c5 3.b3 g6 4.Bb2 Bg7 5.g3 b6 6.Bg2 Bb7 7.0-0 0-0 8.d4 cxd4 9.Qxd4 d6 10.Rd1 Nbd7 11.Nc3 Ne4

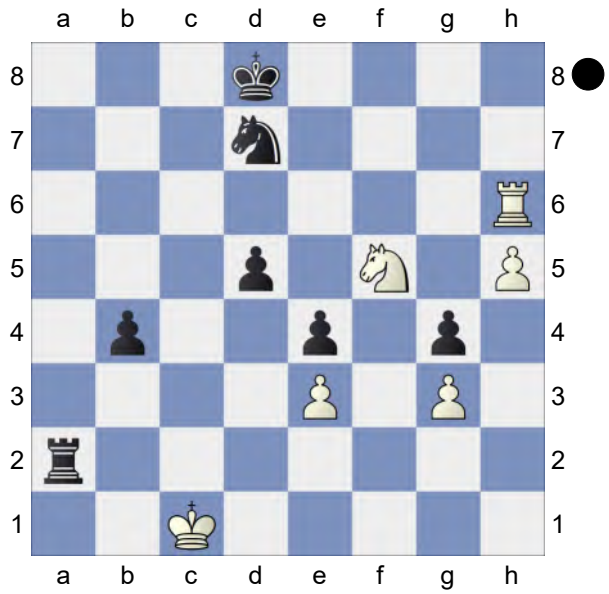
(Diagram)

Discovered Attack **12.Qe3 Nxc3**



13.Bxc3 Bxc3 White has an edge.
14.Qxc3 Rc8
[14...Nf6 15.a4 a5 16.Nd4 Qd7 17.Nb5 Bxg2 18.Kxg2 Qc6+ 19.f3 Rfd8 20.e4 Rd7 21.Rd4 Rad8 22.Rad1 Qc5 23.Qd2 Kg7 24.Nc3 Qb4 25.Qb2 Kg8 26.Rd5 Nxd5 27.Rxd5 e6 28.Rb5 Qc5 29.Rxc5 1-0 (42) Campos,J (2642)-Parramon Ros,F (2339) 42/259 Nikea 1986 (4.5)]
15.Qe3 Rc5N
[15...Re8 16.Rd4 Qc7 17.Qh6 Bxf3 18.Bxf3 Qc5 19.Rad1 Qe5 20.h4 Qg7 21.Qe3 Ne5 22.Bd5 Tadic,B (2493)-Djokic,N (2343) Srbija 126/(16) 2015]
16.Rd4 Nf6 17.Rad1 b5 18.cxb5 Rxb5 19.Ra4 a5 20.Nd4 -0.19/22
[20.Rc1± 0.43/19]
20...Re5= 21.Qd3 Bxg2 22.Kxg2 Threatens to win with Nc6. **22...Qa8+ 23.Qf3 Qxf3+ 24.Nxf3 Rc5 25.Ne1 Rfc8 26.Rdd4 d5 27.f3 e5 28.Rd2 e4 29.Kf2 Re8** 0.30/24
[29...Rc1 -0.07/22 was preferrable. 30.Ng2 exf3 31.exf3 R8c5]
30.Rc2 Rec8 31.Rxc5 Rxc5

Endgame. KRN-KRN **32.Ke3 g5**
[32...Rc1 33.Kd2 Rb1 34.Nc2± *(34.Rxa5 e3+* Deflection *35.Kxe3 Rxe1∓)*]
33.Kd2 Kf8 34.Ng2 Ke7 35.Ne3 h5 36.Nf5+ Kd7 37.Nd4 Ne8 38.Nf5 Nf6 39.h3 g4 40.fxg4 hxg4 41.h4 Nh5 42.e3 Kc7 43.Rd4 Kd7 44.Ra4 Kc7 0.55/23
[Black should play 44...Ke6= 0.00/24 45.Nd4+ Ke7]
45.b4 0.03/22
[45.a3!± 0.55/23]
45...axb4 46.Ra7+ Kd8 47.Rxf7 Ra5 48.Rh7 Rxa2+ 49.Kc1 Nf6 50.Rh6 Nd7 aiming for ...Nc5. **51.h5?** -2.17/22
[51.Rd6= -0.03/22]



51...Rh2? -0.06/22
[51...Ne5!-+ -2.17/22 ...Rh2 would now be deadly. 52.Rb6 Kc7]
52.Rh8+ Kc7 ...Nc5 is the strong threat.
53.h6? -4.43/21
[53.Rh7!= -0.18/19]
53...Nc5-+ 54.Nd4 b3 55.Kb1 Rh1+
[55...Nd3 56.Nxb3 Kd7 *(56...Rb2+ 57.Ka1±)* 57.h7=]
56.Kb2 Rh2+ 57.Kb1 Rh1+? 0.00/46
[57...Nd3 58.Nxb3 Ne5 *(58...Rb2+ 59.Ka1±)* 59.Nd4=]
[57...Kb7-+ -3.05/23 And now ...b2 would win. 58.h7 b2 *(58...Nd3 59.Nxb3 Rb2+ 60.Ka1+-)*]
58.Kb2= Rh2+
Weighted Error Value: White=0.33/ Black=0.29 (precise)
½-½

B30
□ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**
■ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (5.3) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

B30: Sicilian: 2...Nc6 3 Bb5, lines without ...g6
Vasiukov,E: 'Inf 20/370' **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5**
[3.c4 e5 4.Nc3 g6 5.g3 Bg7 6.Bg2 Nge7 7.d3 d6 8.0-0 0-0 9.Be3 f5 10.Qd2 Nd4 11.Ne1 Rb8 12.f4 exf4 13.gxf4 b5 14.Nxb5 Nxb5 15.cxb5 Rxb5 16.Rb1 Bb7 17.b3 Qa8 0-1 (43) Cortes Ventura,J (2081)-Remmelgas,A (2200) Asia-ch Blitz U20 Girls 2023 (8)]
3...e6 4.0-0 Nge7 5.Re1N
[5.c3 d5 6.exd5 Nxd5 7.d4 cxd4 8.cxd4 Be7 9.Nc3 0-0 10.Re1 Bd7 11.Nxd5 *(11.a3 Rc8 12.Bd3 Re8 13.Be4 Nxc3 14.bxc3 Bf6 15.Qd3 g6 16.Bh6 Qc7 17.c4 Red8 18.Rad1 Na5 19.c5 Bc6 20.h4 Bxe4 21.Qxe4 Rd5 22.Bf4 Qd8 23.Bd6 Nc4 24.Bg3 Rcxc5 25.dxc5 Rxd1* 1-0 (72) Grischuk,A (2709)-Radjabov,T (2728) World Blitz Rishon Le Zion ISR 2006 (2)*)* 11...exd5 12.Qb3 Nb4 13.Rxe7 Qxe7 14.Bxd7 Nxa2 15.Bf5 Nxc1 16.Rxc1 g6 17.Bh3 Rad8

18.g3 Rfe8 19.Ne5 Rd6 1-0 (30) Vasiukov,E-Timoscenko,G USSR 20/370 1975 20.Rc5 Rb6 21.Qc3 f6 22.Rc7 Qd6 23.Rd7 Qf8 24.Nd3 Rd8 25.Nc5 Qe8 26.Be6+ Kh8 27.Bf7 Qf8 28.Ne6 Rxd7 29.Nxf8 Rxf7 30.Qc8 1-0 8.♘a3 ♗e7 9.♘c2 ♗g5 10-Siemer,A ICCF GMN/032 email 2011]

5...b6 6.c3 a6 7.Bf1 d5 8.e5 White is slightly better. **8...d4 9.Na3** -0.27/23

[⌓9.d3 0.29/21]

9...Bb7 10.Nc4 Nd5 11.a4 Be7 12.Bd3 -0.62/23

[12.cxd4= -0.06/23 cxd4 13.Re4]

12...0-0∓ 13.Be4 b5 14.Na3 -1.24/22

[14.axb5∓ -0.49/19 axb5 15.Rxa8 Qxa8 *(15...Bxa8 16.Na3∓)* 16.Bxd5 exd5 17.Nd6]

14...Qb6 0.02/18

[14...f5∓ -1.24/22 15.Bxd5 *(15.exf6 Nxf6 16.Bxc6 Bxc6∓)* 15...Qxd5]

15.Qc2 -1.00/20

[15.c4= 0.02/18]

15...h6 16.d3 Rfd8 -0.26/23

[16...dxc3∓ -0.94/19 ...Nd4 is the strong threat. 17.bxc3 Rfd8]

17.Bd2 -1.11/17

[17.axb5= -0.26/23 axb5 18.Bd2]

17...Rac8 0.17/22

[17...dxc3∓ -1.11/17 18.bxc3 Rd7]

18.Qc1 -0.76/20

[18.c4= 0.17/22]

18...Bf8 0.50/21

[18...bxa4 19.Nc4 Qb3 20.Nd6±]

[Black should play 18...dxc3∓ -0.76/20 19.bxc3 b4 *(19...bxa4 20.Nc4± Discovered Attack)* 20.cxb4 *(20.Nc4 Qc7∓)* 20...cxb4]

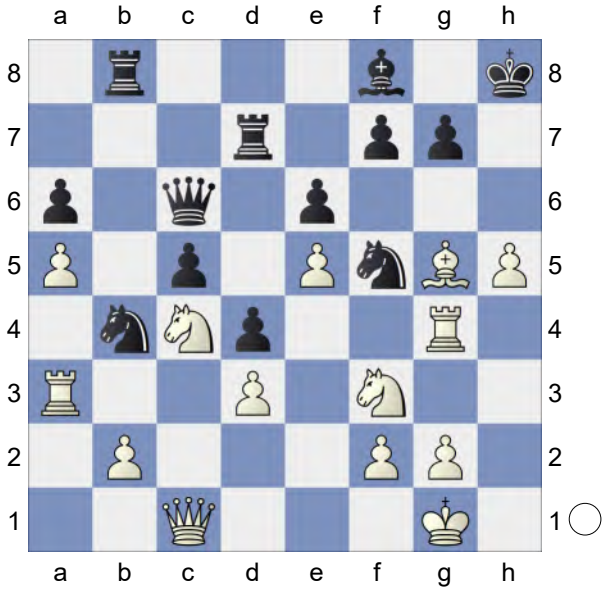
19.c4 bxc4 20.Nxc4 Qc7 21.a5 Against Nb6 **21...Ncb4 22.Ra3 Rb8 23.h4 Ne7 24.h5 Bxe4 25.Rxe4 Qc6** 0.42/22

[25...Ned5= 0.00/19 is more appropriate.]

26.Rg4± Nf5 2.92/22

[Better is 26...Kh7!± 0.34/19]

27.Bxh6+- Kh8 28.Bg5 Rd7



29.h6! hxg7+ would now be deadly.

29...Nxh6

[29...Nd5 30.hxg7+]

30.Bxh6 gxh6 31.Qf4 Bg7 Prevents Qf6 **32.Nd6 Rf8 33.Ne4** Excellent horsemanship. **33...Nd5** Against Nf6 **34.Qg3 f5 35.exf6 Nxf6 36.Ne5 Nxe4 37.dxe4**

[37.Rxe4 Bxe5 38.Qxe5+ Kh7±]

[37.Qh4 Qd6+-]

37...Qc7 38.Ng6+ Kg8 39.Qh4 0.00/20

[39.Qxc7+- 3.56/22 Rxc7 40.Nxf8 Kxf8 41.Rf3+ Rf7 42.Rxf7+ Kxf7 43.b3]

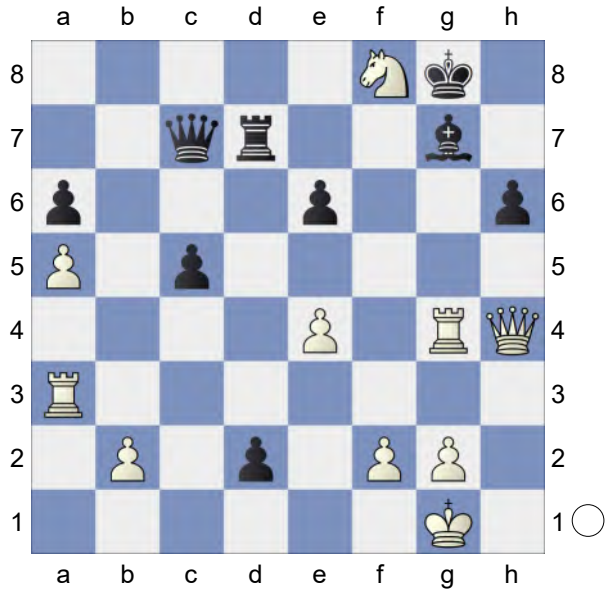
39...d3 0.79/20 **40.Nxf8±** Pin

[40.Ra1 Rff7 41.Rd1 Qb8-+]

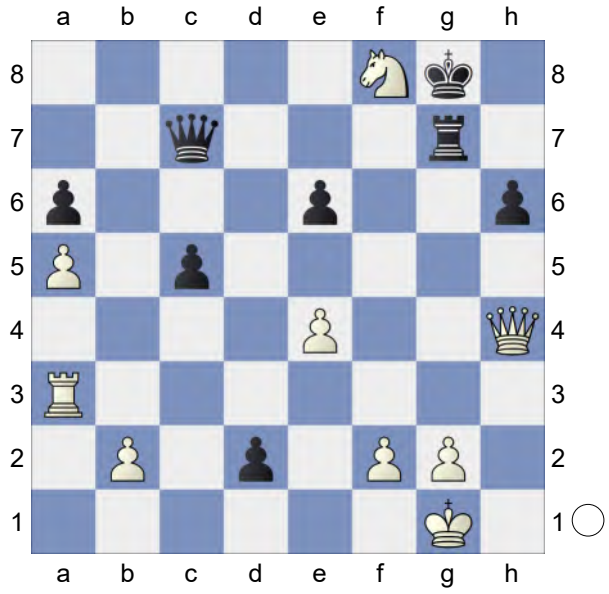
40...d2? 5.17/18

[Black should try 40...Kxf8± 0.68/18 41.Rxg7 Kxg7 42.Qg4+ Kh7 43.Qxe6 d2 44.Qf5+ *(44.Qxa6 c4)* 44...Kh8 45.Qf6+ Kh7 46.Qf5+ *(46.Qxa6 c4)* 46...Kh8 47.Qf8+ Kh7

48.Qf5+]



41.Rxg7+!+- Rxg7



42.Rd3! Qxa5 11.20/20
[⌓42...c4 4.96/17 43.Rxd2 *(43.Nxe6?* loses. *cxd3 44.Nxc7 d1Q+ 45.Kh2 Qg4-+)* 43...Kxf8 44.Qf6+ *(44.Qxh6 Kf7+-)* 44...Kg8 45.Qxe6+ *(45.Qxh6 Kf7+-)* 45...Qf7 46.Qxh6 *(46.Qxa6 Kh7+-)* 46...Qe7 47.Qxa6 Qxe4 48.Qc8+ Kf7 49.Rd7+ Kg6 50.Rxg7+ Kxg7]
[42...Kxf8 43.Qxh6]

43.Nxe6 Qa1+ 44.Kh2 White mates.
44...Qf1 45.Rd8+
[45.Nxc5? Qxg2#]
45...Kh7 46.Nxg7 11.40/18
Weighted Error Value: White=0.43/ Black=0.63
[46.Rxd2? Qxg2#]
[⌓46.Nf8+ #7/17 Kg8 47.Nd7+ *(47.Qxh6? Qxg2#)* 47...Kh7 48.Nf6+ *(48.Nxc5? Qxg2#)* 48...Kg6 49.Qg3+ *(49.Rxd2 Qb5 50.Qh5+ Kxf6 51.Rd6+* Skewer *Ke7 52.Qe5+ Kf8 53.Rd8+ Kf7 54.Qf4+ Ke6 55.Qd6+* Skewer *Kf7 56.Rf8#)* 49...Kxf6 50.Qf4+ Ke7 51.Qd6+ Kf7 52.Rf8#]
1-0

A07
□ **Carlsen,M** **2831**
■ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (5.3) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

A08: King's Indian Attack
1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 c5
[3...b5 4.0-0 e6 5.d3 Bb7 6.c4 c6 7.cxb5 cxb5 8.a4 b4 9.a5 Na6 10.Nbd2 Bd6 11.e4 Nd7 12.Nd4 0-0 13.exd5 Bxd5 14.Bxd5 exd5 15.N2f3 Ne5 16.Be3 Qf6 17.Rc1 Rac8 18.Rxc8 1-0 (27) 6...e5 7 Nge2 c6 (2638)-Reinaldo Castineira,R (2467) USSR 28/589 1979 (5.3)]
4.0-0 Nc6 5.d3 g6 6.Bf4N
[6.a3 Bg7 7.Nc3 0-0 8.Rb1 d4 *(8...a5 9.Bg5 a4 10.Nd2 e6 11.e4 d4 12.Ne2 Qc7 13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.f4 Bg7 15.g4 f5 16.gxf5 exf5 17.e5 g5 18.fxg5 Nxe5 19.Nf4* Kovalenko,V (2350)-Kumar,N (2390) 80/575 Kalkata 2000*)* 9.Na4 Qd6 10.c4

dxc3 11.bxc3 e5 12.Be3 b6 13.Nxe5 Qxe5 14.Bxc6 Bh3 15.Bf4 Qe6 16.Bxa8 Bxf1 17.Qxf1 Rxa8 18.c4 Re8 19.Nc3 Nh5 20.Bd2 Bxc3 ½-½ (35) Rashkovsky,N (2520)-Sermek,D (2465) Bled op 13th 1992 (6) 21.Bxc3 Qxe2 22.Qxe2 Rxe2 23.a4 Rc2 24.Rb3 f5 25.a5 bxa5 26.Rb8+ Kf7 27.Bxa5 f4 28.Kg2 fxg3 29.hxg3 Nf6 30.Rb7+ Ke6 31.Rxa7 Ng4 32.Be1 h5 33.Ra6+ Kf7 34.Ra7+ Ke6 35.Ra6+ Kf7 ½-½ Phandsupatavorn,W (2520)-10.f4 ♗e4 11557 (2465) (ol) 42/779 Dubai 1986 (6)]

6...Nh5 7.Bd2 Bg7 8.Qc1 0-0 9.Nc3 Nf6 10.e4 dxe4 -0.12/25

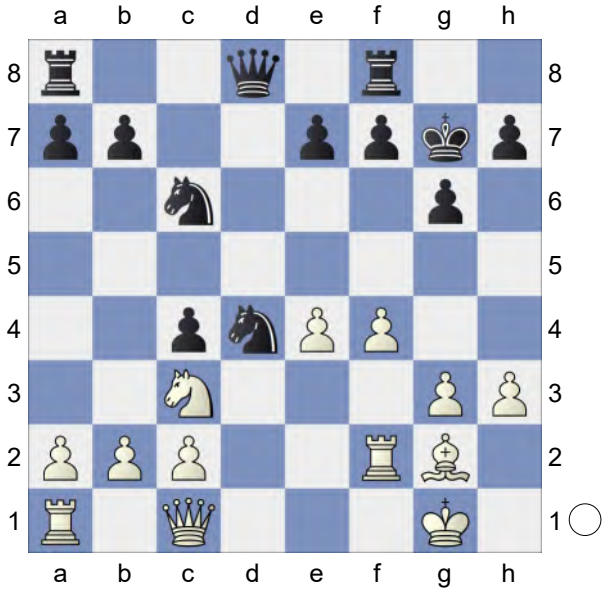
[10...d4∓ -0.50/21 11.Nb1 Ne8]

11.dxe4= Bg4 0.43/20

[Black should play 11...Nd4= -0.16/19]

12.h3!± Bxf3 13.Bxf3 Nd7 14.Bg2 Nde5 15.Bh6 Nd4 16.Bxg7! Kxg7 17.f4 Nec6 18.Rf2 c4 1.12/17

[⌓18...Nb4 0.73/21]



19.Nd5!± Qd6 20.c3 Ne6 21.e5 0.64/16

[21.Qf1± 1.29/17]

21...Qc5± 22.b4 0.04/15

[22.Ne3± 0.79/18]

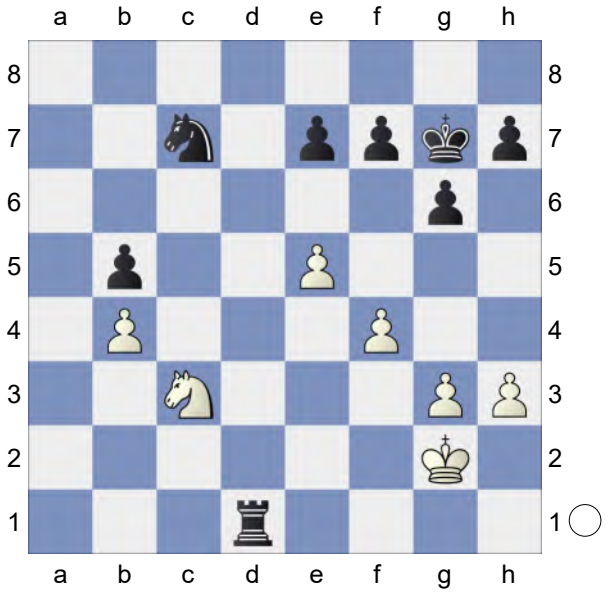
22...cxb3= 23.axb3 next b4 is good for White. **23...a5 24.Qe1 Rfd8 25.Rd1 Rd7 26.Kh2** f5 is the strong threat. **26...Rad8 27.Rfd2 b5 28.Rd3 Qa7 29.b4** Inhibits Nc5. **29...axb4 30.cxb4 Ncd4 31.Ra1** -0.84/27

[31.Nc3∓ -0.36/23]

31...Nc2 -0.03/18 A dynamic duo of knights.

[31...Qb8∓ -0.84/27 32.Qh1 Nc2]

32.Rxa7 The position is equal. **32...Nxe1 33.Rxd7 Rxd7 34.Rd1 Nxg2 35.Kxg2** Endgame. KRN-KRN **35...Nc7 36.Nc3 Rxd1**



Deflection **37.Nxd1** KN-KN **37...Nd5 38.Kf3 e6 39.Ke4 h5 40.h4 Nxb4** ...Nc6 would now be deadly. **41.Nc3 Nc6** Hoping for ...b4. **42.Nxb5 Ne7 43.Nd6 Nf5 44.Kf3 Kf8 45.Ne4 Kg7 46.Ng5 Kf8 47.Ne4 Kg7 48.g4 hxg4+ 49.Kxg4 Nh6+ 50.Kg5 Nf5 51.Nf6 Nd4 52.Kg4 Nf5 53.Kg5 Nd4 54.h5 gxh5 55.Nxh5+ Kf8 56.Kf6 Ne2**

[56...Nf5!?]

57.Kg5 Nd4 58.Ng3 Kg7

Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very

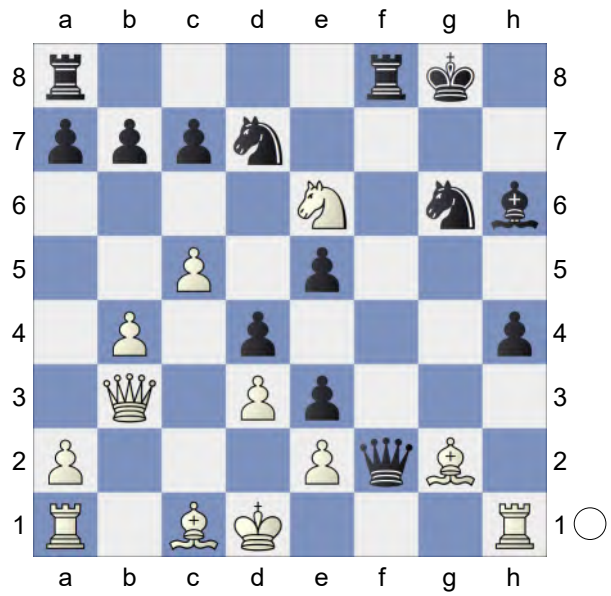
precise) /Black=0.12 (very precise)
½-½

A09
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
■ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (6.1) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

A09: Réti Opening: 1 Nf3 d5 2 c4
1.Nf3 d5 2.c4 d4 3.b4 g5 4.h3 h6 5.d3 Bg7 0.27/20
[⌓5...e5 -0.10/19]
6.g3 -0.14/20
[6.Nbd2 0.27/20 is more appropriate.]
6...e5= 7.Bg2 Ne7 8.Nbd2
The position is equal. **8...0-0**
[8...f5 9.0-0 Ng6 10.Nb3 f4 11.e3 dxe3 12.fxe3 e4 13.Nfd4 f3 14.Bxf3 exf3 15.Qxf3 Ne5 16.Qh5+ Ke7 17.b5 Qe8 18.Qe2 Qg6 19.e4 Bxh3 20.Nf5+ Kd8 21.Bb2 Bxf1 22.Rxf1 Nbd7 23.d4 1-0 (41) Anton Guijarro,D (2693)-Sadhwani,R (2616) World Blitz 2021 (16.32)]
9.Qb3N
[9.Nb3 c6 10.0-0 Ng6 11.e3 dxe3 12.Bxe3 Na6 13.Qd2 e4 14.dxe4 Qxd2 15.Bxd2 Bxa1 16.Rxa1 Be6 17.Na5 Rad8 18.a3 Rd7 19.Be3 Rfd8 20.Kh2 c5 21.bxc5 Rc8 22.c6 bxc6 23.Nd4 c5 ½-½ (81) Anton Guijarro,D (2679)-Tari,A (2625) 147/111 Wijk aan Zee 2021]
[9.0-0 Ng6 10.a4 Be6 11.b5 Qc8 12.Ba3 Re8 13.Kh2 Nd7 14.Nb3 Rb8 15.Nfd2 b6 16.c5 Nf6 17.cxb6 axb6 18.Rc1 Nd5 19.Bb2 Ra8 20.a5 Qd7 21.axb6 cxb6 22.Nc4 Rab8 23.Nbd2 f5 1-0 (64) Pantsulaia,L (2522)-Kilic,E (2459) European Blitz 2024 (13.7)]
[9.a4 Ng6 10.b5 f5 11.a5 a6 12.Nb3 axb5 13.cxb5 Be6 14.0-0 Bd5 15.Bd2 c6 16.Bb4 Re8 17.b6 Na6 18.Ba3 h5 19.Qc2 g4 20.hxg4 hxg4 21.Nfd2 Qg5 22.Nc5 Nxc5 23.Bxc5 Qh5 0-1 (31) Chigaev,M (2632)-Petrov,N (2553) Ugra Cup Rapid 2022 (8.3)]
9...Be6 10.Ne4 Nd7 11.g4 Ng6 0.25/17
[⌓11...f5 -0.20/21 12.gxf5 Nxf5]
12.h4! gxh4 0.67/19
[12...Bxg4?! 13.hxg5 h5 14.Bh3±]
[12...Nf4= 0.24/20 13.Bxf4 gxf4]
13.g5± f5 1.05/18
[13...hxg5± 0.63/21 14.Bxg5 f6]
14.gxh6± fxe4 15.Ng5 e3 1.48/18
[Better is 15...Qf6 1.10/20 16.Nxe4 *(16.hxg7? Qxf2+ 17.Kd1 Qxg2-+)* 16...Qf7 17.hxg7 Kxg7]
16.Nxe6 Qf6 17.c5 0.94/16 Some like it hot. Active counter play!
[17.Nxg7? Qxf2+ *(17...exf2+? 18.Kf1+-)* 18.Kd1 Qxg2-+]
[⌓17.Rf1 1.54/20 Bxh6 *(17...Qxe6? 18.Bd5+-* Pin*; 17...exf2+? 18.Kd1+-)* 18.fxe3 *(18.Nxf8 Rxf8 19.c5+ Kg7±)*]
17...Qxf2+ 18.Kd1 Bxh6 3.97/16
[18...Kh7± 1.48/19 19.Bxb7 *(19.hxg7 Qxg2 20.gxf8N+ Ndxf8=; 19.Nxf8+ Kxh6 20.Nxd7 Qxg2∓)* 19...Bxh6]

(Diagram)

This costs Black the game. **19.Nxf8++-**
[Worse is 19.Be4 Kh7 20.Nxf8+ Rxf8 21.Bxg6+ Kxg6 22.Qe6+ Nf6 23.Qxe5 Qg2∓]
19...Kxf8 White is clearly winning.

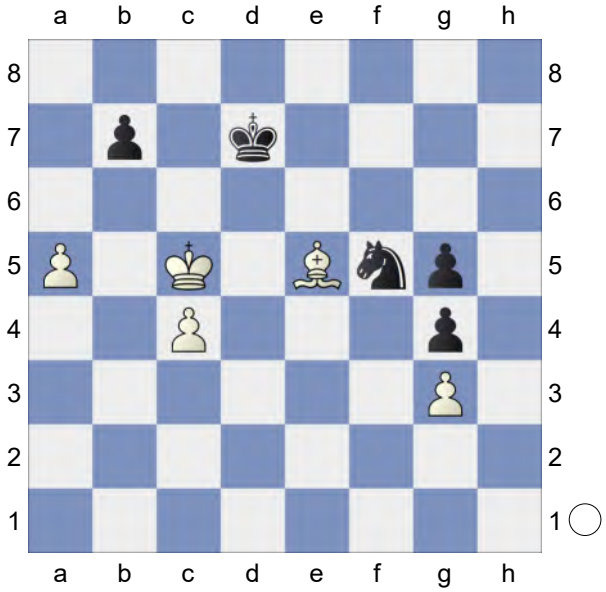


20.Rf1
[20.Bxb7? too greedy. Nf4 21.Re1 Re8-+]
20...Qxf1+ 21.Bxf1 Ke7 Prevents Qe6+ **22.Bh3**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) /Black=0.45
1-0

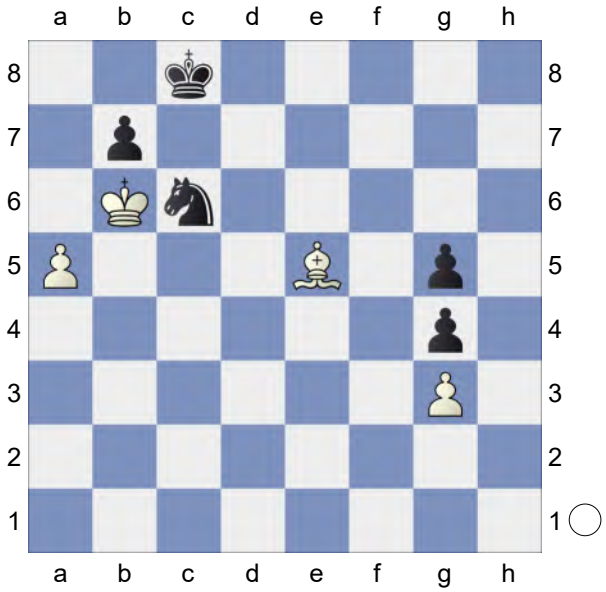
C50
□ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**
■ **Keymer,Vincent** **2733**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (6.1) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

C50: Hungarian Defence and Giuoco Pianissimo
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Nc3 h6 6.a3 d6 7.Na4 Black should prevent Nxc5. **7...Bb6 8.0-0 0-0** The position is equal. **9.h3 Re8 10.Re1**
[10.b4 Be6 11.Bxe6 Rxe6 12.c4 Ne7 13.Re1 *(13.Rb1 c6 14.Re1 Bc7 15.d4 exd4 16.Qxd4 Qe8 17.Nh4 c5 18.Qd1 cxb4 19.axb4 Nxe4 20.Bb2 f5 21.Nxf5 Nxf5 22.Qd5 Ng5 23.f4 Nxh3+ 24.gxh3 Qg6+ 25.Qg2 Qxg2+ 26.Kxg2 Rae8 27.Rxe6 Rxe6* 0-1 (45) Wafa,S (2137)-Stefanova,A (2416) Olympiad Women-45 2024 (2.13)*)* 13...c6 14.Nxb6 Qxb6 15.Qc2 Ng6 16.c5 dxc5 17.bxc5 Qc7 18.d4 Qe7 19.dxe5 Nd7 20.Be3 Ngxe5 21.Nd4 Qxc5 22.Qxc5 Nxc5 23.Nxe6 Nxe6 24.a4 g5 ½-½ (39) Esipenko,A (2683)-Nakamura,H (2780) AI Cup Play In rapid 2023 (6)]
10...Nd4N
[10...Be6 11.Bxe6 Rxe6 12.b3 Nd4 13.Nh2 d5 14.c3 Nc6 15.Qc2 a6 16.Nxb6 cxb6 17.Nf3 Rc8 18.Bb2 b5 19.Rad1 dxe4 20.dxe4 Qe8 21.c4 bxc4 22.Qxc4 Nd4 23.Qd3 Nxf3+ 24.Qxf3 Rc2 25.Ba1 1-0 (50) Chernov,V (2578)-Ernst,H (2731) Grand Slam Final 6th 2013 (5) Qe7 26.b4 Nd7 27.Qd3 Rc7 28.Re2 Nf8 29.Qg3 Ng6 30.Red2 Rec6 31.Kh2 Kh7 32.Rd5 f6 33.Rd8 Rc1 34.Qb3 Nf8 35.Bb2 Rxd1 36.Rxd1 Qe6 37.Qf3 Ng6 38.Bc1 Rd7 39.Re1 b5 40.Be3 1-0 (50) Sindarov,J (2578)-Grischuk,A (2731) Tashkent Kasimdzhanov Cup-A 1st 2023 (5)]
11.Nxd4 Bxd4 12.c3 Bb6 13.Nxb6 axb6 14.Bb3 Be6 15.Bc2 d5 16.Qf3 dxe4 17.dxe4 Nd7 18.Qg3 Qf6 19.f4 Nc5! 20.fxe5 Qg6 21.Qxg6 fxg6 22.Be3 Bb3 23.Bxb3+ Nxb3 24.Rad1 Strongly threatening Rd7. **24...Rxe5 25.Rd7 Rxe4 26.Bf2! Rxe1+ 27.Bxe1±** Endgame. KRB-KRN **27...Rc8 28.Bg3** White is more active. **28...Nc5 29.Re7** 0.04/25
[29.Rxc7± 0.42/32 was preferrable. Rxc7 30.Bxc7]
29...Kf8!= 30.Rxc7 Rxc7 31.Bxc7

KB-KN **31...Nd3! 32.b3 b5 33.Kf1 Ke7 34.Bb6 g5 35.Be3** Black must now prevent Ke2. **35...Ke6 36.Ke2 Nf4+ 37.Kf3 Nd5 38.Bd4 g6 39.g3 Ne7 40.Ke4 Nc6** 0.82/26
[40...h5= 0.12/28 keeps the balance.]
41.Bg7 0.02/29
[41.a4± 0.82/26]
41...h5 42.Bh6 g4 43.hxg4 hxg4 44.a4 bxa4 45.bxa4 Ne5 46.Bf4 Nc6 47.Be3 Ne7 48.c4 Nc6 49.Bf4 Na5 50.Kd4 Nb3+ 51.Kc3 Nc5 52.a5 g5 53.Bb8
[53.Bxg5? is the wrong capture. Ne4+ 54.Kd3 Nxg5-+]
53...Na6 0.42/23
[53...Kd7= 0.00/33 feels stronger.]
54.Ba7± aiming for Be3. **54...Nc7** 0.83/31
[54...Kd7± 0.34/34]
55.Kd4± Ne8 1.92/24
[55...Na6± 0.87/29 was worth a try. 56.Bb6 Nb8]
56.Bb8+- Ng7 57.Kc5 Kd7 58.Be5 Nf5



59.Kb6? 0.13/19
[59.Kb5!+- 4.75/35 Threatens to win with c5. Ke6 60.Kb6 Kxe5 61.Kxb7 Nxg3 62.a6]
59...Kc8!= 60.c5 And now c6 would win.
60...Ne7 7.14/27 This move loses the game for Black.
[60...Ne3= 0.11/29 61.Kb5 Nf1]
61.c6+- White is clearly winning.
61...Nxc6 7.26/32
[⌓61...Nd5+ 4.24/18 62.Kb5 bxc6+ 63.Kxc6 Nb4+ 64.Kb6 Kd7]



62.a6! Deflection **62...bxa6**
[62...Nxe5 63.a7]
63.Kxc6 a5 64.Kb5
Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) /Black=0.11 (very precise)
1-0

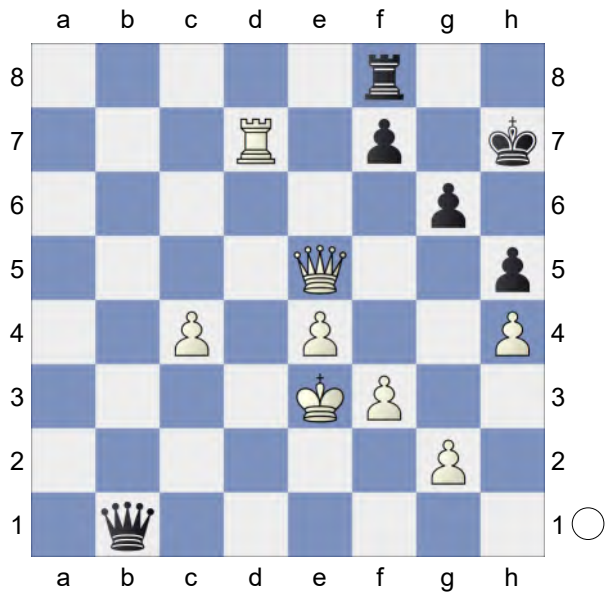
B92
□ **Carlsen,M** **2831**
■ **Aronian,L** **2747**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (6.1) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

B92: Sicilian Najdorf: 6 Be2
ChessCalisthenics: 'C50: Hungarian Defence and Giuoco Pianissimo''C50: Hungarian Defence and Giuoco

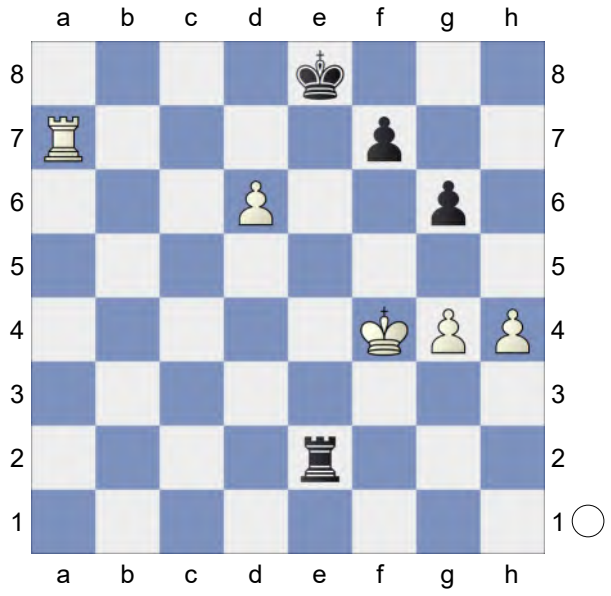
Pianissimo Yudovich,Mikhail Sr: 'ChessCalisthenics: 'C50: Hungarian Defence and Giuoco Pianissimo''' Bulletin: 'Inf.2/458' **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 e5 7.Nb3 Be7 8.Bg5**
[8.0-0 0-0 9.Kh1 Nc6 10.f4 a5 11.a4 Nb4 12.Be3 Be6 13.Bb5 Qc7 14.Nd2 Rfd8 15.f5 Bd7 16.Rc1 d5 17.exd5 Nbxd5 18.Nxd5 Nxd5 19.Qe2 Bc6 20.c3 h6 21.Ne4 Nf6 22.Nxf6+ Bxf6 0-1 (36) Yemelin,V (2500)-Nepomnishay,M (2465) St Petersburg-ch 1997 (8)]
8...Be6 9.Bxf6 Bxf6 10.Qd3N
[10.Nd2 Nc6 11.Nc4 Nd4 12.Ne3 Rc8 13.Bd3 g6 14.0-0 0-0 15.Ncd5 Bg7 16.c3 Nc6 17.Qb3 Rb8 18.Qb6 Qxb6 19.Nxb6 Bf6 20.Bc4 Bd8 21.Bxe6 Bxb6 22.Bb3 Bc5 23.Nd5 Kg7 24.Rad1 b5 0-1 (57) Fuchs,R-Kholmov,R Leningrad 3/248 1967 25.Nc7 Rb6 26.Bc2 a5 27.a3 b4 28.Nd5 Rb7 29.Ba4 Nd8 30.axb4 axb4 31.cxb4 Bxb4 32.Nxb4 Rxb4 33.b3 Rb6 34.Rc1 Ne6 35.Rc6 Rfb8 36.Rxb6 Rxb6 37.f3 Kf6 38.Kf2 Nc5 39.Rd1 Ke6 0-1 (57) Czaeczine,P-Comp Fritz5 Yekaterinburg (ct) 148/22 2021 40.Ke3 Rb4 41.Rd2 f5 42.Bc6 Rxb3+ 43.Ke2 Rb4 44.Ke3 Rb1 45.Bd5+ Kf6 46.Ba2 Rb6 47.Bd5 h5 48.h4 Rb1 49.Ra2 f4+ 50.Ke2 g5 51.hxg5+ Kxg5 52.Ra8 Kh4 53.Rg8 Rb2+ 54.Kf1 Nd3 0-1 (57) Fuchs,R-Evans,L La (ol) 2/458 1966]
10...0-0 11.0-0-0 Be7 12.Nd5 Wards off Qc7 **12...Bxd5 13.Qxd5** The position is equal. **13...Qb6** Black is weak on the light squares **14.Rhf1 Nd7 15.Nd2 Bg5 16.Kb1** Hoping for Nc4. **16...Nf6 17.Qb3 Qc7 18.Nc4 b5** 0.97/23
[18...Rad8!= 0.00/23]
19.Nxd6± Rad8 20.Qa3 Qc6 1.56/24
[⌓20...Nd7 1.15/22]
21.f3 0.88/23
[⌓21.f4! 1.56/24 Bxf4 22.g3]
21...g6 1.45/22
[⌓21...Nh5 0.88/23 22.Nf5 Nf4]
22.c4 b4 23.Qxb4 Be3 2.32/21 Against c5
[23...Nd7± 1.50/22 24.Nb7 Rb8]
24.Nb7!+- Rb8 25.Na5 Qc7 26.Qa4 Rb6 2.40/20
[⌓26...Nh5 1.95/19]
27.Nb3 Bc5 28.Nxc5 Qxc5 29.Rd2 Rfb8 30.Rfd1 1.03/21
[30.Rc1+- 2.11/19 and White stays clearly on top.]
30...Kg7 2.46/21
[30...Rb4± 1.03/21 31.Qxa6 R4b6]
31.Rc2? 0.20/19
[31.Ka1+- 2.46/21]
31...a5? 2.76/21
[31...Rb4!= 0.20/19 and Black has nothing to worry. 32.Qxa6 R4b6]
32.a3 h5 33.h4 Rb3 34.Ka2 Qb6 35.Rdd2 Nd7 36.Qxd7 Rxa3+ 37.Kb1! aiming for c5. **37...Qb3** (-> ...Qa2+) **38.Rd3 Qa2+ 39.Kc1 Qa1+ 40.Kd2 Ra2 41.b3 a4 42.Rxa2! Qxa2+ 43.Ke3 axb3** 3.45/22
[43...a3 2.00/21 was necessary. 44.Qd6 Qb2]
44.Qc7 b2 45.Qxe5+ Kh7 46.Rd7! Rf8 47.Bd3 b1Q 48.Bxb1 Qxb1 Endgame.

(Diagram)

KQR-KQR **49.Kf2** Against Qe1+ **49...Qc2+ 50.Kg3 Qxc4 51.Qd5 Qxd5 52.exd5** KR-KR
[52.Rxd5 Kh6=]



52...Kg7 53.Kf4 Re8 4.50/27
[53...Rc8 2.94/22 was worth a try. 54.Re7 Rc2]
54.Ra7 Re2 55.g4 hxg4 56.fxg4 Kf8 57.d6 Strongly threatening Ra8+.
57...Ke8



58.Kg5? 0.43/20
[58.Ra4!+- 3.01/24 Re4+ is the strong threat. Rh2 59.Kg5]
58...Re4? 7.75/25
[58...Rg2± 0.43/20]
59.Ra8+ White is clearly winning.
59...Kd7 60.Rf8 f5 61.gxf5
[61.Kxg6 Rxg4+ 62.Kf6 *(62.Kxf5 Rxh4 63.Ke5 Rh5+ 64.Rf5 Rxf5+ 65.Kxf5 Kxd6=)* 62...f4=]
61...gxf5 62.h5
[Worse is 62.Rxf5 Kxd6 63.h5 Ke6=]
62...Kxd6 63.h6! h7! would now be deadly.
[Weaker is 63.Rxf5 Ke6=]
[63.Kxf5 Ke7=]
63...Rg4+ 64.Kh5 Black must now prevent h7! **64...Rg2 65.h7**
[And not 65.Rxf5 Ke6 66.Rf1 Rh2+ 67.Kg6 Rg2+ 68.Kh7 Ke7=]
65...Rh2+ 66.Kg6 f4 67.h8Q
Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.37
1-0

B33
□ **So,W** **2747**
■ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (6.1) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

B33: Sicilian: Pelikan and Sveshnikov Variations
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Nd5 Nxd5 8.exd5 Nb8 9.Qf3 a6 10.Qa3 Be7
[10...b6 11.Bg5 Be7 12.Bxe7 Kxe7 13.0-0-0 Bb7 14.Nc3 Nd7 15.f4 Qc7 16.fxe5 Nxe5 17.Qb4 h5 18.Be2 Kf8 19.Rhf1 Re8 20.Rf5 h4 21.Rf4 Qd8 22.Kb1 Rh6 23.Rdd4 h3 24.g3 Bc8 25.a4 1-0 (35) So,W (2770)-Carlsen,M (2862) Skilling Open KO 2020 (3.14)]
11.Bd2 -0.28/23
[⌓11.Be2 0.19/24]
[11.Bg5 f6 12.Bd2 0-0 13.Bb4 axb5 14.Qxa8 Na6 15.Bd2 Qb6 16.Be3

Qa5+ 17.c3 b4 18.Bxa6 bxc3 19.0-0 cxb2 20.Rab1 bxa6 21.Rxb2 Bf5 22.Qa7 Re8 23.Rd1 Qa4 24.Rc1 Be4 25.Qb7 Qa5 ½-½ (52) Malec,J (2370)-Dubnevych,M (2251) Bydgoszcz op-A 2023 (7)]

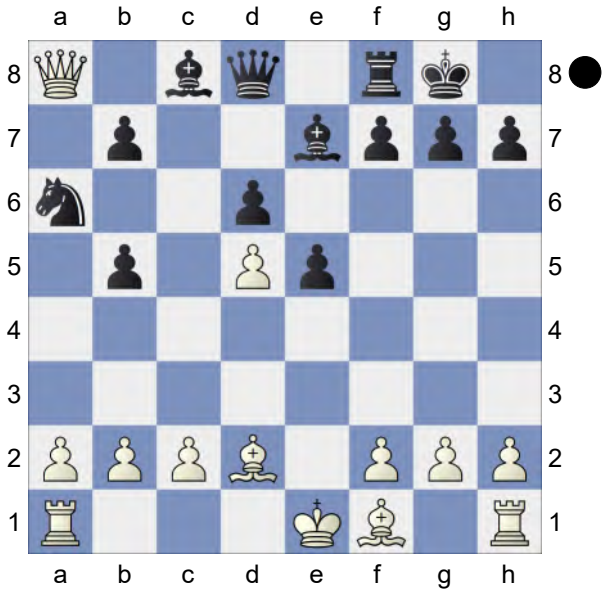
11...0-0= Black has an edge. **12.Bb4** -0.59/19

[12.Be2= -0.17/21]

12...axb5N

[12...Qd7 13.Be2 b6 14.0-0 Bb7 15.Nxd6 a5 16.Qh3 Qxh3 17.gxh3 Bxd5 18.Rfd1 Nc6 19.Nf5 Bxb4 20.Rxd5 g6 21.Bb5 Chapter-Games Chapter 3 Game 1]

13.Qxa8 Na6 14.Bd2



Bg5! 15.Bxg5 -1.75/19

[15.Bxb5? Bxd2+ 16.Kxd2 Qa5+ 17.Kc1 Qxb5-+]

[15.Qa7∓ -0.89/21]

15...Qxg5-+ 16.Bxb5 -2.91/24

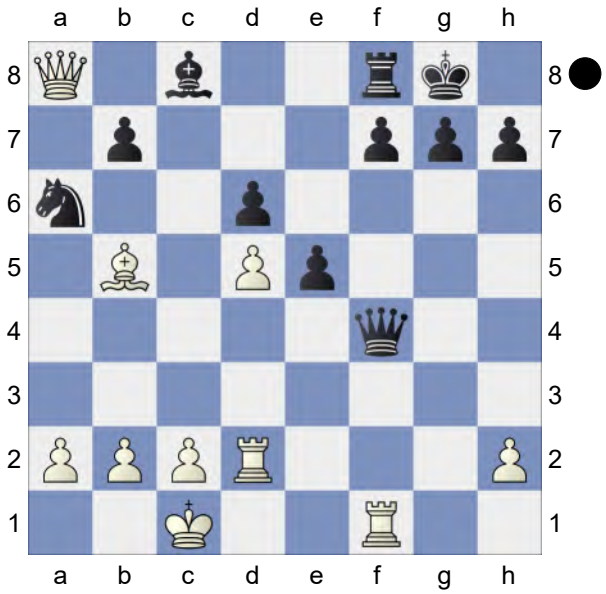
[16.a3∓ -1.46/21 Qg6 17.Kd2 *(17.Bxb5? Qe4+ 18.Be2 Bg4-+)*]

16...Qxg2 17.0-0-0 Qxf2 Strongly threatening ...Bf5. **18.Rd2 Qf4** -0.90/26

[18...Qe3-+ -1.78/23 19.Bxa6 bxa6]

19.Rf1 -2.01/25

[19.Bxa6∓ -0.90/26 bxa6 20.Qa7]



19...Qh6! 20.Bxa6 bxa6 21.Qa7 f5 Black has strong compensation. **22.Rg1** -2.58/20

[⌓22.b3 -1.81/16]

22...f4 23.Kb1 e4 24.Rd4 Bf5 White must now prevent ...f3.

[24...Qxh2 25.Qxg7#]

25.Rb4 e3

[25...Qxh2 26.Qxg7#]

26.Rb7 g6 ...f3 is the strong threat.

[26...Qxh2 27.Rbxg7+ Kh8 28.Rg8+ *(28.Qxa6?* loses. *Qxc2+ 29.Ka1 e2-+)* 28...Rxg8 29.Qd4+]

27.Re7 Qxh2 28.Rc1 Qh6 Inhibits Rg7+. **29.a4 g5 30.Qxa6 Qf6 31.Qa7 g4 32.Rf1 Bg6** Hoping for ...g3. **33.Rxe3 f3** Threatens to win with ...f2. **34.Rg1?** -5.90/18

[34.a5 -1.93/19 f2 35.Rc3]

34...f2 35.Rf1 Rf7? -1.81/19 Dodges Qc7

[35...Qf4 -5.83/20 36.Ka1 g3 *(36...Bxc2? 37.Re2-+; 36...Qc4? 37.Rxf2 Rxf2 38.Re1-+)* 37.Rxg3 Qxg3]

36.Qb6? -4.44/20

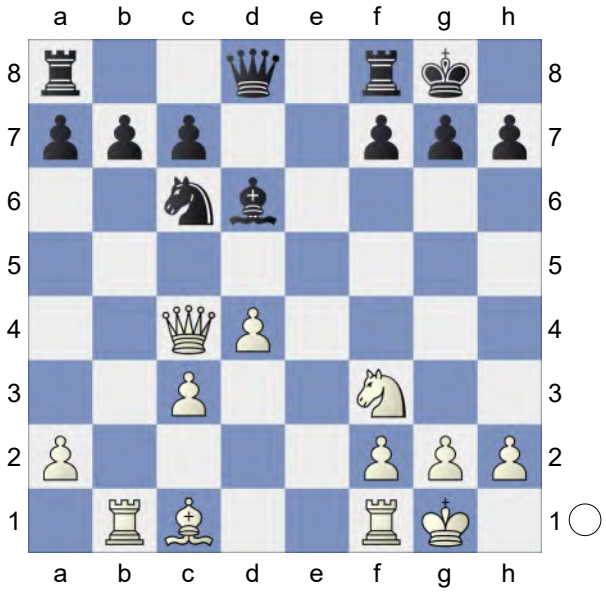
[36.Qb8+ -1.81/19 Kg7 37.Qb4]

36...Kg7 -1.79/16
[⌓36...Qf4 -4.44/20 37.Re8+ Kg7]
37.a5? -4.53/21
[37.Qb4 -1.79/16 h5 38.a5]
37...Qf4 Black is clearly winning. **38.Qb3** Prevents Qc4 **38...h5 39.Qc3+ Kh6 40.Re6** -6.97/18
[⌓40.b3 -4.29/17]
40...g3 41.Qh8+ Kg5 42.Qd8+ Rf6 43.Rd1 f1R
[Weaker is 43...f1B 44.Qxf6+ Qxf6 45.Rxf6±]
44.Rxf1 Qxf1+ 45.Ka2 g2 46.Qxd6 Rxe6
[Inferior is 46...g1B 47.Qg3+ Kh6 48.Rxf6 Qxf6 49.Qxg1=]
47.dxe6 g1Q (-> ...Qc4+) **48.Qe5+ Qf5** Weighted Error Value: White=1.18/ Black=0.80
0-1

C42

□ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**
■ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (6.2) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

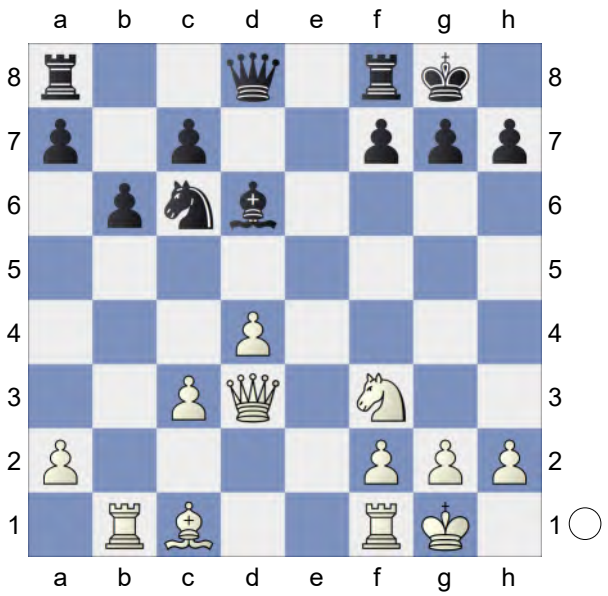
C42: Petroff Defence: 3 Nxe5 and unusual White 3rd moves
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.d4 d5 6.Bd3 Be7 7.0-0 Bf5 8.c4 Nc6 9.Nc3 Nxc3 10.bxc3 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 dxc4N
[11...0-0 12.Bf4 dxc4 13.Qxc4 Bd6 14.Bxd6 Qxd6 15.Rfe1 Rad8 16.Ne5 Nxe5 17.Rxe5 Rfe8 18.f4 Rxe5 19.fxe5 Qe7 20.Rb1 b6 21.Qc6 Qd7 22.Qb7 c6 23.Qxd7 Rxd7 24.Kf2 f6 25.Re1 fxe5 26.Rxe5 ½-½ (69) Khoury,T (2020)-Villiers,T (2160) Daventry 4NCL Easter op 3rd 2023 (5) Kf7 27.Ke3 Re7 28.Ke4 Re6 29.d5 cxd5+ 30.Kxd5 Rf6 31.Re2 Rf5+ 32.Kc6 g5 33.c4 Ra5 34.g4 Kf6 35.Rd2 Rc5+ 36.Kb7 Rxc4 37.Kxa7 b5 38.Kb6 b4 39.h3 b3 40.axb3 Rb4+ 41.Kc5 ½-½ (69) Koepcke,R (2020)-8.♘c3 ♗f5_77515 (2160) Turkiye 153/16 2022 (5)]
12.Qxc4 0-0 13.Rb1 Bd6 1.14/20
[13...Re8= 0.19/20]



14.Qd3!± White is more active.
[14.Rxb7 Na5 15.Qa6 Nxb7 16.Qxb7 c5=]
14...b6

(Diagram)

15.Ng5! White is better. **15...g6 16.Qh3 h5 17.g4 Be7 18.Rb5 Qd7**
[Not 18...a6? 19.gxh5 Qc8 *(19...axb5? loses. 20.hxg6 Kg7 21.Qh7+ Kf6 22.Nxf7+-)* 20.Qh4+-]
19.gxh5 Discovered Attack **19...Qxh3 20.Nxh3 a6 21.Rd5 Rad8 22.Rxd8 Rxd8 23.hxg6 fxg6 24.Re1 Kf7** 1.12/21
[⌓24...b5 0.72/23]

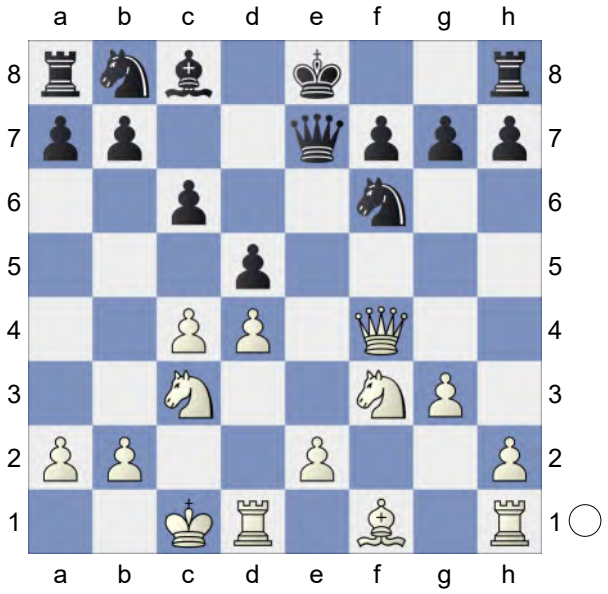


25.Nf4 0.35/19
[Better is 25.Ng5+± 1.12/21 Bxg5 26.Bxg5]
25...Bd6 0.96/24
[25...Bf6± 0.35/19]
26.Ne6 Rh8 27.Bf4 Bxf4 28.Nxf4 Endgame. KRN-KRN **28...Nd8** 1.41/21
[⌓28...Rd8 0.93/24]
29.Kg2 g5 30.Nd3 Kf6 31.f4 1.09/24
[White should play 31.Nb4 1.47/23 Nd5+ would now be deadly. Ne6 32.Nd5+ *(32.Nxa6 Nf4+ 33.Kh1 Ra8=)* 32...Kf7 33.Re5]
31...Ne6 32.fxg5+ Nxg5 33.Re3 Ne6 1.83/20
[33...Rg8± 0.94/19 was called for.]
34.d5? 0.11/25
[White should try 34.Rf3++- 1.83/20 Ke7 35.Ne5]
34...Ng7 35.Re4 Nf5 36.Re6+ Kg5! 37.Ne5 Nf7+ is the strong threat.
37...Ne3+ The position is equal. **38.Kf3 Nxd5** aiming for ...Kf5! **39.Nf7+ Kf5 40.Re5+ Kf6 41.Rxd5 Kxf7=** KR-KR **42.Kg3 Ke6 43.Rd4 c5 44.Ra4 Rg8+ 45.Kf3 Rh8 46.h4 a5 47.Re4+ Kf5 48.a4 Rd8 49.Rf4+ Kg6 50.Kg4 Rd6 51.Re4 Kh6 52.Kf5** And now Re6+ would win. **52...Rd3 53.Rc4 Kh5 54.Ke4 Rd1 55.Ke3 Rd8 56.Rf4 Rd6 57.Ke4 Rd1 58.Ke5 Rd2 59.Rf6 Rb2 60.Kd5 Kxh4 61.Kc4 Kg5 62.Rf1 Kg4 63.Kd5 Rb3 64.Rc1 Kf4 65.Kc4 Rb2 66.Re1 Kf5 67.Kd5 Rb3 68.c4 Rb4 69.Rf1+ Kg5 70.Kc6 Rxa4** Threatens to win with ...Rb4. **71.Kxb6 Rxc4 72.Kxa5** Black escapes into a draw.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.11 (very precise)
½-½

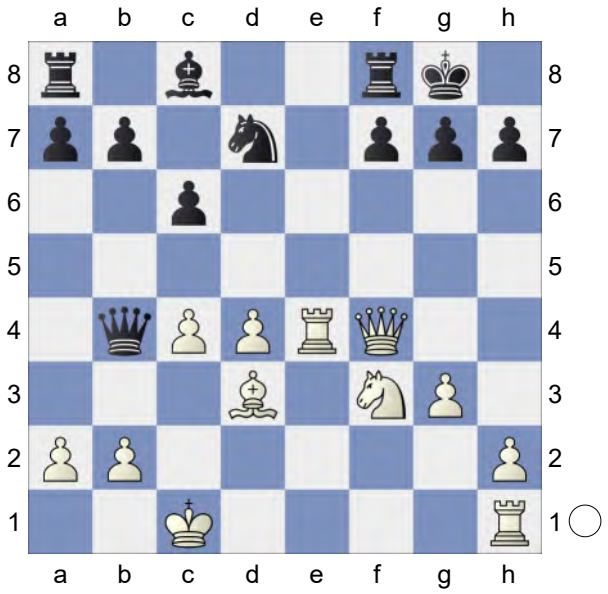
A20
□ **Keymer,Vincent** **2733**
■ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (6.2) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

A20: English Opening: 1...e5
1.c4 e5 2.g3 c6 3.d4 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 Bxd2+ 5.Qxd2 d6 6.Nc3 Nf6 7.0-0-0 Hoping for dxe5. **7...e4N**
[7...Nbd7 8.dxe5 Nxe5 9.e4 Be6 10.b3 Qa5 11.h3 b5 12.cxb5 0-0 13.Kb1 Qb4 14.f3 Rfd8 15.Rh2 d5 16.f4 Nxe4 17.Nxe4 Qxe4+ 18.Kb2 Nf3 19.Nxf3 Qxf3 20.Rf2 Qxg3 21.Rg2 Qh4 22.Qd4 1-0 (45) Yakubboev,N (2630)-Hovhannisyan,R (2596) Jermuk Avagyan Memorial 2023 (3) g6 23.bxc6 Rac8 24.Rc2 Rc7 25.b4 Bxh3 26.Rh2 Rxc6 27.Rxh3 Qg4 28.Re3 Qh4 29.f5 Qf2+ 30.Re2 Qxf5 31.Rf2 Qe6 32.Bd3 Rb6 33.a3 Rdb8 34.Rh1 h5 35.Rxh5 gxh5 36.Rg2+ Kf8 37.Qg7+ 1-0 (45) Laurent,F (2630)-Jablecnik,G (2596) FRA-ch 54th Courchevel 1979 (3)]
8.f3 Qe7 9.Qf4 The position is equal.
9...exf3 0.83/22

[9...e3= 0.16/23 remains equal.]
10.Nxf3± d5



11.e4! dxe4 12.Re1 0-0 13.Nxe4 White has more active pieces. **13...Nxe4 14.Rxe4 Qb4** 2.21/25
[14...Qd8± 0.84/20]
15.Bd3+- Nd7



16.a3 1.33/22
[White should try 16.Re3!+- 1.84/22]
16...Qa4? 3.61/22 A mistake that costs the game.
[16...Qb6± 1.33/22 was necessary.]
17.Qh4 And now Re6! would win. **17...h6 18.g4** g5 is the strong threat. **18...Nf6 19.Rf4 Qb3 20.Rd1** 1.76/18
[⌓20.Ne5 3.25/25 Nd7 21.Qg3]
20...Nxg4 4.71/22
[20...b5 1.76/18 21.Rxf6 bxc4 22.Rxh6 gxh6 23.Qxh6 cxd3 24.Qg5+ Kh7 25.Qh5+ Kg7 26.Qg5+ Kh8 27.Qh4+ Kg7 28.Qg5+ Kh7 29.Qh4+ Kg8 30.Qg5+ Kh7]
21.Rxg4 Bxg4 22.Qxg4 Threatens to win with Rg1! **22...f5 23.Qg3 Rae8 24.Ne5 Rf6 25.c5 Kh8 26.Rg1 Re7 27.h4 b5** 6.08/20
[⌓27...b6 4.18/19 28.h5 bxc5 29.Ng6+ *(29.dxc5 Rb7+-)* 29...Rxg6 30.hxg6 cxd4 31.Bxf5 Qxg3 32.Rxg3 Kg8]
28.h5 White is clearly winning. **28...Kg8 29.Bc2 Qxg3 30.Rxg3 g5 31.hxg6 Kg7 32.Rf3 f4 33.Be4 h5 34.Kd2**
[34.Nxc6? loses. Rxe4 35.Nxa7 Rxg6 *(35...Rxd4? 36.b4-+)* 36.Nxb5 Rg2-+]
[34.Bxc6 Rxe5 35.dxe5 Rxc6±]
34...Kh6 35.Kd3 h4 36.Ng4+
Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.51
1-0

B40
□ **Aronian,L** **2747**
■ **Carlsen,M** **2831**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (6.2) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

B40: Sicilian: 2...e6, Unusual lines
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d3 Nc6 4.g3 g6 5.Bg5N
[5.Bg2 Bg7 6.0-0 Nge7 7.c3 d5 *(7...0-0 8.Re1 e5 9.Na3 d6 10.Be3 b6 11.Qd2 Bg4 12.h3 Bxf3 13.Bxf3*

Qd7 14.Bg2 f5 15.exf5 gxf5 16.f4 Rad8 17.Re2 Qe6 18.Qc2 Qg6 19.Kh2 Kh8 20.Qa4 d5 21.fxe5 Bxe5 22.Bf4 0-1 (37) Bruzon Batista, L (2652)-Topalov,V (2757) 93/112 Wijk aan Zee 2005*; 7...e5 8.Be3 d6 9.Qd2 0-0 10.Bh6 d5 11.Bxg7 Kxg7 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.Re1 Re8 14.Na3 Bf5 15.Nc4 f6 16.d4 b5 17.Ne3 Nxe3 18.Rxe3 cxd4 19.cxd4 Nxd4 20.Nxd4 Qxd4 21.Qa5 Rab8 22.Rc1* ½-½ (35) Romero Troncoso,L (1693)-Morales Flores,M (1927) CHI-ch (Women) 2023 (8)*)* 8.Qe2 *(8.Nbd2 b6 9.Re1 h6 10.h4 Qc7 11.Qe2 Ba6 12.e5 g5 13.hxg5 hxg5 14.Nxg5 Qxe5 15.Qd1 Qxg5 16.Nc4 Qh5 17.Qa4 Bxc4 18.dxc4 Kf8 19.cxd5 exd5 20.Bf4 Be5 21.g4 Qh4 22.Rxe5 Nxe5* ½-½ (40) Arizmendi Martinez,J (2472)-Gershon, A (2467) Mermaid Beach Club 1999 (7) *)* 8...0-0 9.e5 *(9.Na3 e5 10.exd5 Nxd5 11.Nc4 Re8 12.Ng5 Nb6 13.Ne4 Qe7 14.Bg5 f6 15.Be3 Nd7 16.Ned6* g3-g6-d5play-main-For White *)* 9...h6 10.h4 f5 11.d4 b6 12.Bf4 Kh7 13.Qe3 Ba6 14.Rc1 Rc8 15.Nbd2 Na5 16.h5 gxh5 17.Nh4 Bb5 18.Bf3 Nc4 19.Nxc4 dxc4 ½-½ (57) Fedorov,A (2602)-Glek, I (2597) RUS-chT 12th 2005 (2)]

5...f6 0.24/25

[⌓5...Qb6 -0.22/21]

6.Be3= d5 7.exd5 exd5 8.d4 The position is equal. **8...c4** 0.63/22

[8...Bg4= 0.09/23 9.Bg2 cxd4 10.Bxd4 Qe7+ 11.Kf1 0-0-0]

9.Bg2± Bd6 10.0-0 Nge7 11.Bh6 Nf5 Wards off Bg7 **12.Re1+ Kf7 13.Bd2 h5** 0.89/22

[13...Re8± 0.45/22 is superior.]

14.Nc3± Nce7 15.b3 cxb3 16.axb3 Bd7 Wards off Nb5 **17.Qe2** 0.63/22

[17.Na4± 1.04/19]

17...a6± 18.Na4 Ne5+! is the strong threat. **18...Rc8** 1.69/23

[18...Re8± 0.71/20]

19.c4 0.89/22

[19.Ne5+!+- 1.69/23 fxe5 20.dxe5 Bxa4 *(20...Nd4? 21.Qd3+-)* 21.exd6 Qxd6 22.Rxa4 *(22.bxa4 Rxc2 23.Rab1 b5±)*]

19...Re8 20.c5 0.56/25

[20.Bc3± 0.93/20]

20...Bc7 21.Nc3 White is more active. **21...Nc6 22.Qd3**

[22.Qd1 simplifies Rxe1+ 23.Bxe1 Nfe7 24.Rb1]

22...Nb4 23.Rxe8 Qxe8 24.Qb1 Ne7 25.Nh4 -0.14/24

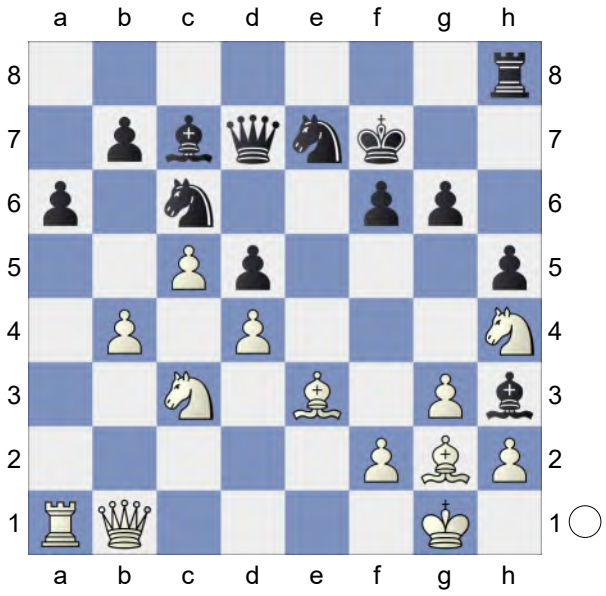
[⌓25.Qb2 0.27/22]

25...Be6 0.27/22

[25...Kg7 -0.14/24 is more appropriate.]

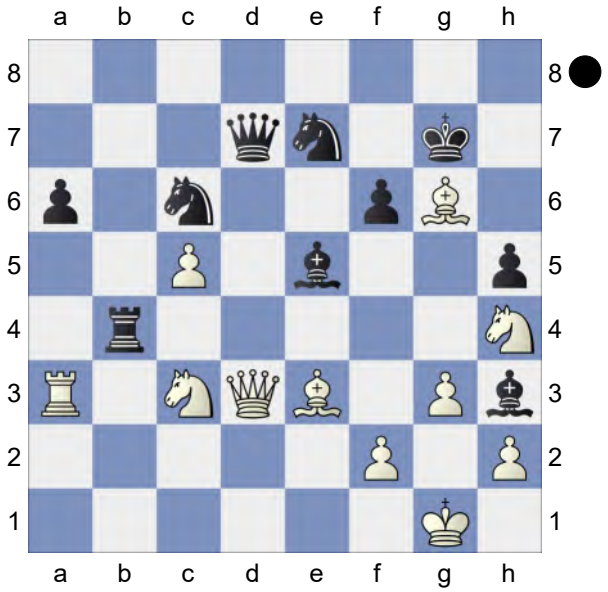
26.Ne2= Nbc6 27.b4 Qd7 28.Be3 Rh8 29.Nc3 Bh3? 2.59/21

[29...g5= -0.19/22 30.Nf3 Nf5]



30.Bxd5+ 1.04/22 **Kg7± 31.Be4 Nxd4 32.Bxb7** 0.04/23

[32.Ra2± 0.42/18 should be considered. Ndf5 33.Rd2 *(33.Bxb7? perishes. Nxh4 34.Rd2 Qg4-+)*]
32...Rb8 33.Be4 Really sharp!
33...Be5? 2.04/20
[33...g5= 0.21/21 and Black stays safe.]
34.Bxg6?? -1.80/23
[34.Rxa6+- 2.04/20 was the only winning move. Threatens to win with Bxd4! Ne6 35.c6]
34...Ndc6-+ 35.Ra3 Rxb4 36.Qd3



Rxh4! -0.69/22 **37.Qxd7∓ Bxd7 38.gxh4** -2.08/22
[38.Be4∓ -0.65/24 Rg4 39.f3 Rxe4 40.Nxe4]
38...Kxg6-+ 39.Ne4 a5 40.Bd2 Bd4 -1.14/20
[40...Nf5-+ -2.46/25 ...a4 would now be deadly. 41.Bxa5 Ncd4 *(41...Nxh4? 42.Bc3∓)*]
41.Bxa5∓ Nxa5 -0.56/17
[41...Bf5∓ -0.94/22 42.Ng3 Bg4 *(42...Bxc5 43.Rc3∓)*]
42.Rxa5∓ Nc6 Repels Ra7
[42...Bc6!? 43.Nd6 Bd5∓]
43.Ra6 Kf5 Black has compensation.
44.Ng3+ Kg6 45.Ne2 Bxc5 46.Nf4+ Kh6 47.Kg2 Bd6 48.Nd5 Kg6 49.f3 Kf7 50.Nb6 Be8 51.Nc4 -1.24/25 Prevents Ne5
[White should try 51.Nd5∓ -0.62/26]
51...Bf4 52.Ra3 -1.56/23
[⌓52.Nb6 -1.18/21]
52...Nd4∓ 53.Ra5? -3.19/23
[53.Ne3∓ -1.33/18]
53...Bc6 54.Kf2 Bxf3 This pair of bishops is nice. **55.Ne3** -3.31/20
[⌓55.Ra7+ -2.14/20 Ke6 56.h3]
55...Bxe3+? -0.03/22
[55...Bxh2-+ -3.31/20 White must now prevent ...Kg6. 56.Ra7+ Kg6]
56.Kxe3= Nc6 57.Rc5 Ne5 58.Rc3 -3.15/25
[58.Rxe5!= -0.11/25 fxe5 59.Kxf3]
58...Bd5 Never resign too early!
Weighted Error Value: White=0.39/ Black=0.36
½-½

D37
□ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**
■ **So,W** **2747**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (6.2) 18.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

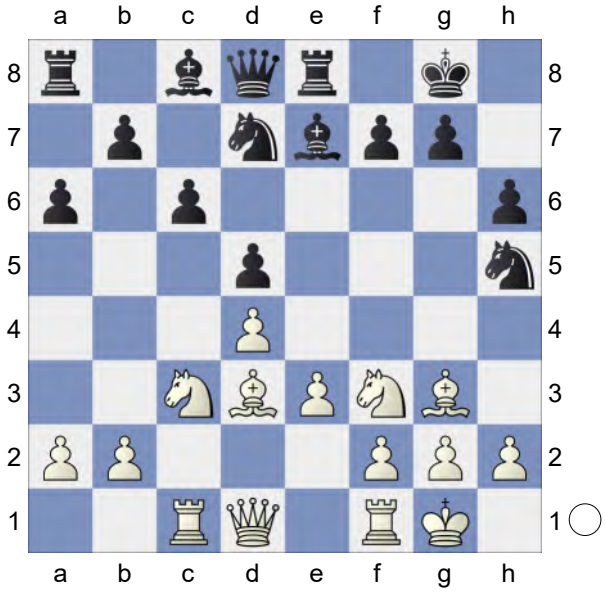
D63: Queen's Gambit Declined: Classical: 7 Rc1
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 Nbd7N
[4...dxc4 5.e4 Bb4 6.Qc2 b5 7.a4 c6 8.Be2 Bb7 9.0-0 a6 10.Bg5 h6 11.Bh4 Be7 12.e5 Nd5 13.Bxe7 Qxe7 14.Ne4 0-0 15.Nd6 Qc7 16.Qd2 Rd8 17.Rfd1 Rxd6 18.exd6 Qxd6 15. Vienna 5.e4 Bb4 6.Bxc4-Vienna 5.e4 Bb4 6.Qc2]
[4...a6 5.e3 dxc4 6.Bxc4 b5 7.Bb3 Bb7 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.Qe2 c5 10.Rd1 Qb6 *(10...Qc7 11.h3 Be7 12.a3 0-0*

13.Bc2 Rac8 14.dxc5 Nxc5 15.e4 Rfd8 16.Bg5 h6 17.Bh4 Ncd7 18.Bg3 Qb6 19.e5 Nd5 20.Ne4 b4 21.Nd6 Bxd6 22.exd6 bxa3 23.Rxa3 Bc6 24.Nd4 Nc5 25.Be5 1-0 (32) Kobeissey,J (2423)-Monteiro,H (2322) 4.e3 f5 5.g4 (7)) 11.h3 Be7 12.e4 cxd4 13.Nxd4 Nc5 14.e5 Nfd7 15.Bc2 b4 16.Na4 Qa5 17.Nxc5 Nxc5 18.Qg4 g6 19.Bh6 ½-½ (23) Bacrot,E (2714)-Istratescu,A (2589) FRA-chT Top 12 2018 (7)]

[4...Bd6 5.Bg5 c6 6.e3 0-0 7.Rc1 dxc4 8.Bxc4 Nbd7 9.Bd3 Be7 10.0-0 b6 11.Qc2 Bb7 12.Ne5 g6 13.Bh6 Re8 14.Rfd1 Nxe5 15.dxe5 Nd5 16.Nxd5 exd5 17.e6 f5 18.Bxf5 gxf5 19.Qxf5 1-0 (27) Capablanca,J-Anon Lessons from Capablanca (2): attacking 1916]

5.Bg5 h6 6.Bh4 Be7 7.e3 0-0 8.Rc1 a6 9.cxd5 exd5 10.Bd3 Re8 11.0-0 c6 12.Bg3 Nh5 1.88/23

[12...Bf8± 0.61/22]



13.Nxd5!+- Nxg3

[13...cxd5? is the wrong capture. 14.Bc7+-]

14.Nxe7+ White is clearly better.

14...Qxe7 15.hxg3

[15.fxg3 Qxe3+ 16.Kh1 Qe7=]

15...Nf6 16.Qc2 Be6 17.Bc4 1.24/22

[17.Rfe1+- 1.77/24]

17...Nd5 1.83/26

[17...Bxc4± 1.24/22 18.Qxc4 Ne4]

18.a3 Rad8 19.Rfe1 Nc7 20.Bxe6 1.45/20

[20.Bd3+- 1.93/23]

20...Nxe6± 21.Rcd1 Ng5 22.Nxg5 1.10/20

[Better is 22.Nd2 1.53/21]

22...hxg5 23.Qb3 Rd7 1.11/21

[⌓23...g4 0.71/21]

24.d5 0.32/26

[24.g4± 1.11/21]

24...cxd5± 25.Rxd5 Qe6 26.Rd3 0.03/22

[White should play 26.Red1± 0.55/30]

26...Qxb3= 27.Rxb3 Endgame. KRR-KRR **27...Rc8** Against Rc1 **28.Rc3 Rxc3 29.bxc3** KR-KR **29...Kf8 30.a4 Ke7 31.Kf1 Rc7 32.Rb1 Ke8 33.Ke2** Kd3 would now be deadly. **33...Rxc3** The position is equal. **34.Rxb7** Threatens to win with Rb6. **34...Rc4 35.Rb8+ Ke7 36.Rb7+ Ke8** Blacks defense is rewarded with a draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.14 (very precise)

½-½

		D05
□	**Keymer,Vincent**	**2733**
■	**Nepomniachtchi,I**	**2755**

CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (6.3) 18.12.24

[Kitty Kat]

D05: Colle System with ...e6

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.e3 e6

[3...c5 4.c4 cxd4 5.exd4 g6 6.Nc3

Bg7 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Qb3 Nxc3 9.bxc3 0-0 10.Bf4 Nc6 11.Be2 b6 12.0-0 Bb7 13.Rfe1 Rc8 14.Qb2 Na5 15.Nd2 Qd5 16.Bf1 Qf5 17.Bg3 e6 18.Rad1 ½-½ (28) Kluegel,J (2500)-Nickel,A (2630) 30/A (SUI) ICCF 2015]

4.Nbd2N

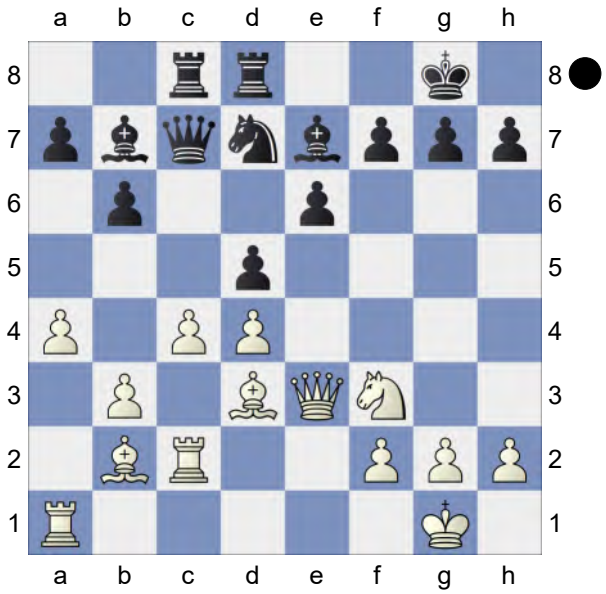
[4.Be2 Be7 5.0-0 0-0 6.c4 c5 7.b3 b6 8.Bb2 Bb7 9.Nbd2 Nbd7 10.Rc1 Rc8 11.Ne5 Nxe5 12.dxe5 Nd7 13.cxd5 exd5 14.f4 Re8 15.Bd3 Nf8 16.Qg4 Rc7 17.Rf3 Bc8 18.f5 Bg5 1-0 (33) Bukojemski,A-Blesic,V Chapter 5 (5)]

[4.Bd3 c5 5.c3 b6 6.Nbd2 Bb7 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.Qe2 Be7 9.e4 dxe4 10.Nxe4 0-0 Beginner Guide Sarin Queen'-Sarin Queen'S Gambit Colle,S 1… e6 Against Everything 2024]

4...b6 5.b3 Bb7 6.Bb2 Be7 7.Bd3 0-0 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.a4 c5 10.Qe2 Ne4 11.Rfd1 The position is equal. **11...Rc8 12.c4 cxd4 13.exd4 Nxd2 14.Rxd2 Qc7 15.Qe3** -0.27/20

[15.a5 0.14/17 feels stronger.]

15...Rfd8 16.Rc2



cxd5 would now be deadly. **16...Qb8 17.h3** -0.20/18

[⌓17.a5 0.16/16]

17...Bf6 0.24/17

[⌓17...a5 -0.20/18]

18.a5= dxc4 19.bxc4 Nf8 20.Ng5 Ng6 21.axb6 axb6 22.Ne4 Nxf6+ is the strong threat.

[22.h4 looks sharper. Qd6 23.Rd1 Bxg5 24.Qxg5 h6 25.Qg4]

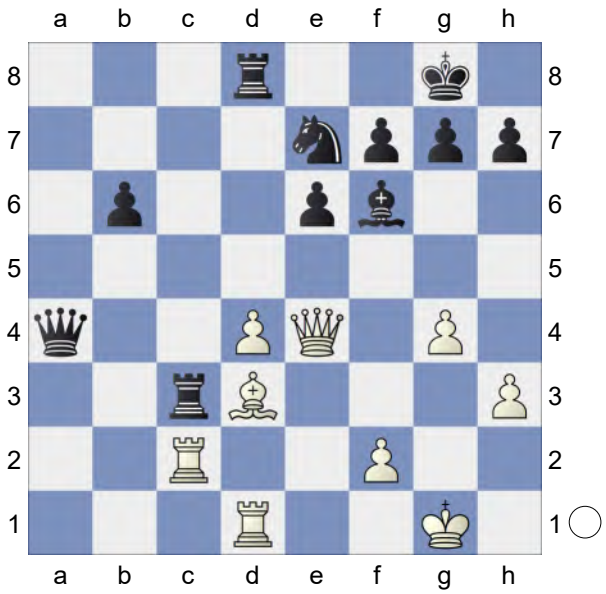
22...Bxe4 23.Bxe4 Qd6 24.Rd1 Qb4 25.Bd3 Ne7 26.Bc3 This pair of bishops is nice. **26...Qa4 27.g4 Rxc4**

[27...g6 simplifies 28.Rcc1 b5 29.Qf3 Bg5]

28.Qe4 -4.42/20 Wards off Nd5. Loses the game.

[28.Ra1!∓ -0.33/19 Qxc2 *(28...Qb3 29.g5±)* 29.Bxc2]

28...Rxc3-+



Pin. Black is clearly winning. **29.Qxh7+ Kf8 30.Rxc3** And now Bc2 would win. **30...Qxd1+ 31.Kg2 Qd2 32.Rc7** Hoping for Qh8+. **32...Qh6**

[Not 32...Rxd4 33.Qh8+ Ng8 34.Bh7∓]

33.Qe4 -6.33/18

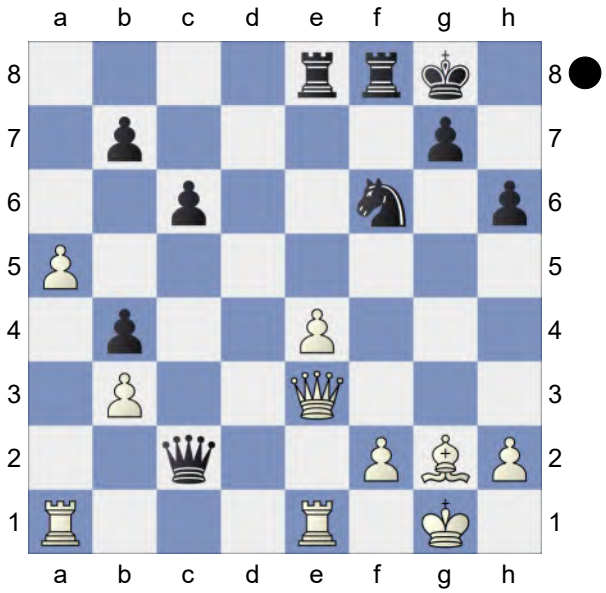
[⌓33.Qxh6 -4.26/16 gxh6 34.Ba6]

33...Nd5

Weighted Error Value: White=0.52/ Black=0.35
[And not 33...Rxd4 34.Qa8+]
0-1

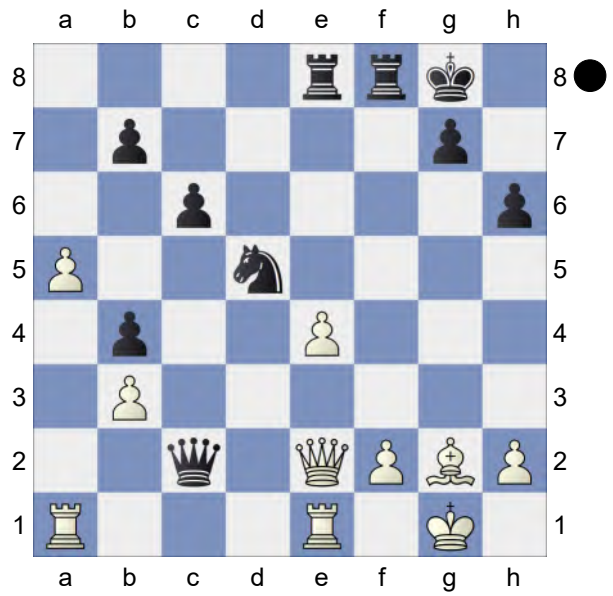
A06
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
■ **Keymer,Vincent** **2733**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (7.1) 19.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

A07: Réti Opening: New York and Capablanca Systems
1.Nf3 d5 2.b3 Nf6 3.Bb2 Bf5 4.g3 e6 5.Bg2 h6 6.0-0 Be7 7.d3 0-0 8.Nbd2 c6 9.Re1 Bh7 10.e4 a5 11.a4
[11.a3 c5 12.Ne5 Nc6 13.exd5 exd5 14.Nxc6 bxc6 15.a4 Nd7 16.Qg4 Bf6 17.Bxf6 Nxf6 18.Qf4 Rb8 19.Nf3 Rb4 20.Qe3 Nd7 21.Qe7 Bf5 22.Qd6 Qf6 23.Qxf6 Nxf6 24.Re7 Rc8 25.Ne5 Be6 1-0 (72) Afanasiev,N (2569)-Grachev,B (2593) RUS-chT Blitz 2022 (4.1)]
11...Nbd7 12.exd5N
[12.Qe2 Qb6 *(12...Qb8 13.Kh1 Ra6 14.Nd4 Bb4 15.f4 dxe4 16.dxe4 Re8 17.N4f3 b5 18.Red1 Qb6 19.Ne5 Ra7 20.Nxd7 Rxd7 21.Bxf6 gxf6 22.Nf3 Red8 23.Rd3 Bg6 24.Nh4 Rxd3 25.cxd3 Qc5 26.f5 exf5 27.exf5* ½-½ (40) Inkiov,V (2500)-Lukov,V (2430) BUL-ch37 Pernik 1983 (6)*; 12...dxe4 13.dxe4 Qc7 14.Rac1 Rfd8 15.Red1 Bc5 16.e5 Ng4 17.Rf1 Bb4 18.Nc4 b5 19.axb5 cxb5 20.Nd6 Rab8 21.Nxb5 Qb6 22.Na3 Bc5 23.Nc4 Qc7 24.Bc3 Nxf2 25.Rxf2 Bxf2+ 26.Qxf2 Ra8 27.Nd4* 1-0 (32) Thorsteinsson,E-Griffith,M NAtlantic tt3 B05 corr9094 1990 *)* 13.Bh3 Qa6 14.Nd4 Kh8 15.e5 Ne8 16.f4 c5 17.Nb5 d4 18.Ne4 A 07/24 2000]
12...Nxd5 13.Nc4 Bb4 14.Nfd2 Qc7 15.Qc1 Nc3 16.Ne3 Rae8 17.Nd1 Nd5 18.Re2 -1.12/26
[18.Ne3∓ -0.52/20]
18...e5∓ 19.Nc4 f5 20.Ba3 -2.14/21
[20.c3∓ -1.39/19 Bc5 21.Bf1]
20...f4-+ ...f3 is the strong threat.
21.Bxb4 axb4
[21...Nxb4 22.Bf1∓]
22.Re1 N7f6 23.Nd2 Qb6 24.a5 Qc5 25.Ne4 Bxe4 -0.76/21
[25...Nxe4-+ -1.79/19 and Black stays clearly on top. 26.dxe4 Nc3 27.gxf4 exf4 *(27...Rxf4 28.Qe3=)* 28.Nxc3 Qxc3]
26.dxe4∓ Nc3 -0.21/20
[26...Nc7!∓ -0.67/24 27.Nb2 Nb5]
27.Nxc3= Qxc3 28.gxf4 exf4 29.Qxf4 Qxc2 30.Qe3 -1.19/19
[30.e5∓ -0.35/21 Nd5 31.Qg3]



30...Nd5!∓ Pin, Deflection
[30...Ng4 31.Qe2 Qxe2 32.Rxe2∓]
31.Qe2

(Diagram)



Qxb3 0.00/26
[Better is 31...Qc5!∓ -1.07/20 Hoping for ...Nf4. 32.Qc4 Qxc4 *(32...Qxf2+ 33.Kh1∓)* 33.bxc4 Nf4]
32.Rab1!= Qc3 33.Qa2! Pin **33...Rf7 34.Rec1**
[34.Rbc1!? b3□ 35.Qb1= *(35.exd5 Rxe1+ 36.Bf1 Qxc1 37.Qxb3 Rxf1+ 38.Kg2 Rg1+ 39.Kh3 Qf1+ 40.Kh4 Rf4+ 41.Kh5 Rg5#)*]
34...b3 35.Qxb3
[35.exd5? bxa2 36.Ra1 Qxa5-+]
[35.Qa4 is more complex. Qd3 36.exd5 Rxf2 37.Qg4]
35...Qxb3 36.Rxb3 Nf4 37.Re1 Against Ne2+ **37...Re5 38.Bf1 Kh7**
[Don't play 38...Rxa5 39.Bc4 b5 *(39...Rg5+? 40.Kf1+-)* 40.Bxf7+ Kxf7 41.Rc3=]
39.a6 The position is equal. **39...bxa6 40.Bxa6 Rf6 41.Bf1 Ne6 42.Kg2 Nf4+ 43.Kg1 Ne6 44.Kg2 Nd4 45.Rc3 c5 46.f3 Ne6 47.Kf2 Nf4 48.Rec1 Rc6 49.Kg3 g5 50.h4 Kg7 51.hxg5 hxg5 52.Rd1 Rc7 53.Rc2 Kf6 54.Bc4 Rh7 55.Rcd2** Rd6+ would now be deadly. **55...Rh3+ 56.Kg4** aiming for Rd6+. **56...Rh4+ 57.Kg3** Threatens to win with Rd6+. Active counter play! **57...Rh3+ 58.Kf2** And now Rd6+ would win.
[58.Kg4!? Rh4+□ 59.Kg3 Rh3+=]
58...Rh2+ 59.Ke3 Rxd2 60.Rxd2 Endgame. KRB-KRN **60...Ke7 61.Ra2 Kf6 62.Ra6+ Ke7 63.Kf2 Kf8 64.Kg3 Kg7 65.Kg4 Ng2 66.Ra3** Against Ne3+ **66...Nf4 67.Ra7+ Kg6 68.Ra6+ Kg7 69.Ra2 Kg6 70.Rd2 Kg7 71.Bb5 Kf6 72.Rd6+ Kg7 73.Rc6 Ne6 74.Bc4 Nf4 75.Ba6 Ne6 76.Bc8 Nd4 77.Rd6 Ne2 78.Bf5 Nd4 79.Kxg5 Nxf5! 80.exf5** Strongly threatening Rd7+. KR-KR **80...Kf7 81.Rd7+ Re7 82.Rd6 Rc7 83.Rh6 Kg8** Prevents Rh7 **84.Rg6+ Kf8 85.Rf6+ Kg8 86.Rd6 c4 87.f6** Black must now prevent Kg6.
[87.Kg6!? Rg7+□ 88.Kf6=]
87...Kf7 88.Rd2 c3 89.Rc2 Rc5+ 90.Kf4
[Don't blunder 90.Kh6? Kxf6 91.Kh7 Rc8-+]
90...Kxf6 91.Ke3 Kf5 92.Kd3 Rc7 93.Rxc3 Rxc3+ 94.Kxc3 Kf4 95.Kd3 Kxf3 Black had all chances to win.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.11 (very precise)
½-½

C55
□ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**
■ **Aronian,L** **2747**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (7.1) 19.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

C55: Two Knights: 4 d3, 4 d4 exd4 5 e5 and Max Lange Attack
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Be7
[4...d5 5.exd5 Nxd5 6.0-0 Nb6 7.Bb5 Bd6 8.d4 e4 9.Re1 f5

10.Bg5 Qd7 11.c4 0-0 12.c5 exf3 13.cxb6 Qf7 14.Bxc6 bxc6 15.Qxf3 axb6 16.Nc3 f4 17.Qxc6 Bd7 18.Qd5 Qxd5 19.Nxd5 1-0 (41) Rojas Keim,L (2680)-Vasquez Bonifacio,L (2738) Metz op 28th 2010 (5.5)]

[4...Bc5 5.Nc3 h6 6.h3 d6 7.Na4 Bb6 8.a3 Ne7 9.Nxb6 axb6 10.Ba2 Ng6 11.0-0 0-0 12.Re1 Be6 13.Bb1 Re8 14.d4 c6 15.c3 Qc7 16.Be3 Rad8 17.a4 d5 18.Nxe5 Nxe5 19.dxe5 1-0 (38) Quist,J (2427)-14.♘e4 ♖b8 15.c4 ♖e8_20 (2165) 55/47 London 1992 (4)]

5.0-0 0-0 6.Nbd2N

[6.Nc3 d6 7.a3 Bg4 8.h3 Bxf3 9.Qxf3 Nd4 10.Qd1 c6 11.f4 exf4 12.Rxf4 d5 13.exd5 cxd5 14.Ba2 Bc5 15.Kh1 Re8 16.Rf1 Ne6 17.g4 d4 18.Na4 Be7 19.g5 Nd7 20.Rxf7 Bd6 ½-½ (56) Edighoffer,H-Melton,R APCT King ch-1 1996]

6...d5 7.exd5 Nxd5 8.h3 Nb6 The position is equal.

[8...Nf4 with more complications. 9.Ne4 Ng6 10.Nfg5 Bxg5 11.Nxg5 h6]

9.Bb3 Kh8 10.a4 a5 11.Re1 f6 12.Nf1 Bf5 13.Nh4 Bd7 14.c3 Prevents Nd4 **14...f5 15.Nf3 Bf6 16.Ng3 Qe8** 1.12/21

[Black should play 16...Re8± 0.40/21]

17.Bf4!± White is more active. **17...Qg6 18.Bxe5**

[18.Nxe5?! Bxe5 19.Bxe5 f4 20.Bxc7 fxg3 21.fxg3 *(21.Bxb6 Nb4∓)* 21...Nb8±]

18...Nxe5 19.Nxe5 Bxe5 20.Rxe5 f4 21.Ne4 f3 22.Rg5 0.59/19

[22.g4!± 1.43/22]

22...Qh6± 23.Rg3 fxg2 24.Ng5 Threatens to win with Nf7+.

[24.Kxg2 Rf4=]

24...Bc6? 2.52/20

[24...Qf6= 0.19/20 and Black is okay. 25.Qf3 *(25.Rxg2 h6∓)* 25...Qxf3 26.Nxf3 Rf4]

25.Qg4? 0.06/24

[25.Nf7++- 2.52/20 Rxf7 26.Bxf7]

25...Nd5 0.46/24

[25...Qf6= 0.06/24 26.Qd4 Qxd4 27.cxd4 g6]

26.Re1↑ White fights for an advantage. Some like it hot

[26.Kxg2? Ne3+ *(26...Nxc3+ 27.Kg1∓)* 27.Kg1 Nxg4-+]

26...Nf4 1.62/20 Repels Re6. White now steadily converts the win.

[26...Qf6= 0.28/19 and Black has nothing to worry. 27.Ne4 Qf7]

27.Re7!+- Black must now prevent Nf7+.

[27.Nf7+ Rxf7 28.Bxf7 Qf6=]

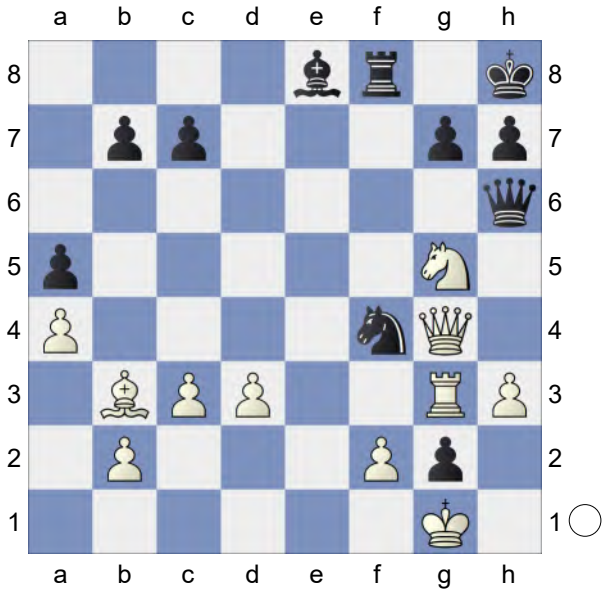
27...Rae8? 3.99/20

[27...Qg6 1.64/18]

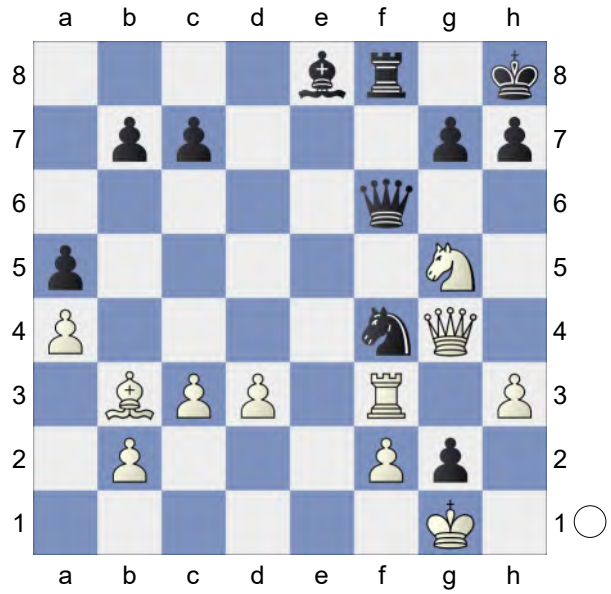
28.Rxe8! Overworked Piece

[Don't blunder 28.Nf7+? Rxf7 29.Rxe8+ *(29.Bxf7 Nxh3+ 30.Kh2 g1B+ 31.Rxg1 Nxg1+ 32.Bh5 Rxe7-+)* 29...Bxe8-+]

28...Bxe8



29.Rf3! Qf6

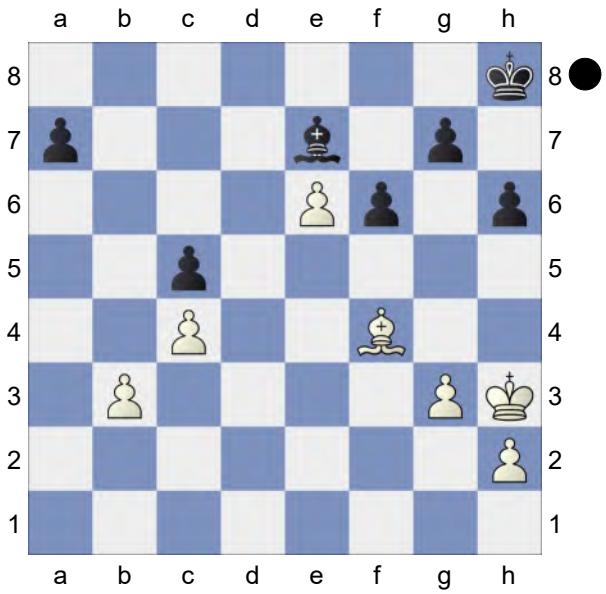


And now ...Bh5 would win. **30.Nf7+! Bxf7 31.Rxf4 Bxb3 32.Rxf6 gxf6** Endgame. KQ-KRB **33.Qd4**
[33.Kxg2? loses. Rg8-+]
33...Rg8 6.03/18
[⌓33...Rf7 4.12/17 34.Kxg2 b6]
34.Qxf6+ White is clearly winning. **34...Rg7 35.Qd8+ Bg8 36.Qf6 h5 37.Qh6+ Bh7 38.Qxh5 Rg6 39.Qxa5 Kg7 40.Qxc7+ Kh6 41.Qxb7 Rg5 42.Qf3 Bg8**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.24 (precise) /Black=0.58
1-0

B30
□ **Carlsen,M** **2831**
■ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (7.1) 19.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

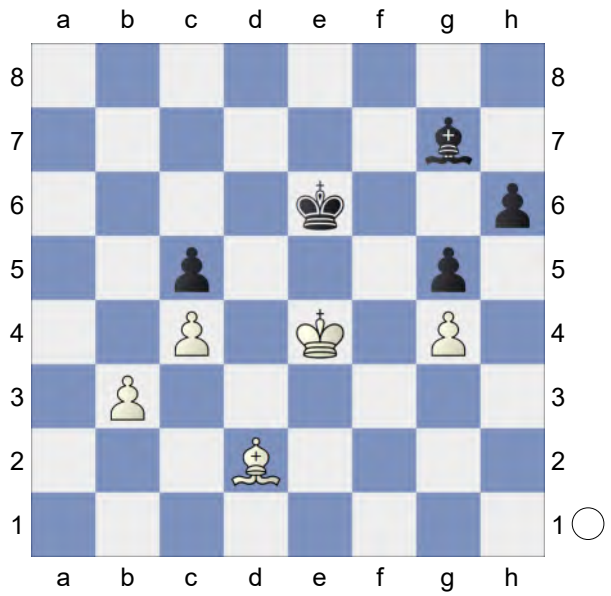
B30: Sicilian: 2...Nc6 3 Bb5, lines without ...g6
Vasiukov,E: 'Inf 20/370' **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5**
[]

3...e6 4.Bxc6N
[]
4...bxc6 5.b3 f6 6.0-0 1.1 **Nh6 7.c3 Nf7 8.d4 cxd4 9.cxd4** The position is equal. **9...c5 10.d5 Bd6 11.Na3 Ba6** Wards off Nb5 **12.Nc4 Bxc4 13.bxc4 0-0 14.Rb1 Qc7 15.Be3 Rab8 16.Qd3 Rxb1** 0.52/20
[]
17.Rxb1± Rb8 18.Rb3 0.09/20
[]
18...Rb6 19.g3 Ne5 20.Nxe5 Bxe5 21.Kg2 Rxb3 22.axb3= Endgame. KQB-KQB **22...h6 23.f4 Bd6 24.dxe6 dxe6 25.f5 exf5 26.Qd5+ Kh8 27.exf5 Bf8 28.Kh3 Qe7 29.Bf4 Qe2 30.Qe6** Active counter play! **30...Qh5+** 0 **31.Kg2 Qd1 32.Qf7 Qe2+ 33.Kh3 Be7** 1.2 **34.Qe6 Qxe6 35.fxe6**



aiming for Kg4. KB-KB **35...Kh7 36.g4** 1.1 **g5 37.Bb8 Kg6 38.Kg2 f5 39.h3** 0.9 **fxg4 40.hxg4 Kf6** Against Be5+ **41.Bxa7** 1 **Kxe6 42.Kf3 Ke5 43.Ke3 Bd6** 1.3 **44.Bb6 Ke6 45.Ke4 Be7 46.Ba5 Bf6 47.Bd2** 0.6 **Bg7?** 2.56/36
[]

(Diagram)



This move loses the game for Black. **48.b4!+- cxb4 49.Bxb4 Be5?** 7.99/25
[]
50.Bf8 White is clearly winning. **50...Bf4 51.Bxh6** 1.1 **Kd6 52.Bf8+** 5.91/26
[]
52...Kc6 53.Kf5 Be3 54.Be7
[]
54...Bd2 55.Bxg5 Bb4 56.Be3
Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) /Black=0.16 (very precise)
1-0

C65

□ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**
■ **So,W** **2747**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (7.1) 19.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

C84: Closed Ruy Lopez: Unusual White 6th moves
We have seen in a couple of examples in my favorite Breyer system what happens when White gets the dream setup; now it is time to look at what can happen when things get out of control in a similar structure! The following game is extremely instructive. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.0-0 Be7 6.c3 0-0 7.Re1 a6 8.Ba4**
[8.Bxc6 bxc6 9.d4 exd4 10.cxd4 d5 11.e5 Ne4 12.Qc2 c5 13.Be3 c4 14.Nc3 Nxc3 15.bxc3 Bg4 16.Nd2 Qd7 17.Nf1 Bf5 18.Qd2 Rab8 19.Bg5 Ba3 20.Ng3 Bg6 21.f4 h6 22.Bf6 Qg4 ½-½ (40) Karjakin,S (2788)-Ivanchuk,V (2768) WchT 8th Ningbo 2011 (6.1)]
8...b5N
[8...Re8 9.Nbd2 Bf8 10.h3 b5 11.Bc2 Bb7 12.d4 g6 13.a3 Nb8 14.d5 c6 15.c4 Nbd7 16.a4 Qc7 17.b3 Rec8 18.Ra2 bxc4 19.bxc4 a5 20.Nf1 Ba6 21.Ne3 Nc5 22.Nd2 cxd5 23.cxd5 (40) 4.1) Model Games: Zaitsev-Bre-Alireza Firouzja Magnus Carls Super Grandmaster Strategy: Leko's Ruy 2024]
9.Bc2 d5 10.Nbd2 dxe4 11.Nxe4 Nxe4 12.dxe4 Be6 13.Be3 Qxd1
The position is equal. **14.Rexd1 f6 15.Ne1 Na5 16.Nd3 Rfd8 17.Nc5 Bxc5 18.Bxc5 Kf7 19.Kf1 Nb7 20.Be3 Na5 21.Rxd8 Rxd8 22.b3 g5 23.Ke2 h5 24.f3 h4 25.Kf2 c5 26.Ke2 Nb7 27.a4 b4 28.cxb4 cxb4 29.a5 Rc8 30.Bd3 Rc6**
[30...Bxb3 31.Bxa6 Rc2+ 32.Bd2±]
31.Ra4 Bxb3 32.Rxb4 Nxa5 33.Bb6 Nc4 34.Bf2 Ba2 35.Ra4 Bb3 36.Rb4 Ba2
Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.03 (flawless)
½-½

E64
□ **Keymer,Vincent** **2733**
■ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (7.2) 19.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

A62: Modern Benoni: Fianchetto Variation without early ...Nbd7

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.c4 0-0 5.Nc3 d6 6.d4 c5 7.d5 e6 8.0-0 exd5 9.cxd5 Re8 10.Re1 Na6N
[10...Nbd7 11.e4 a6 12.Bf4 *(12.a4 Ng4 13.Nh4 Nge5 14.f4 Nc4 15.Nf3 Rb8 16.Qc2 Na5 17.e5 dxe5 18.d6 Nc6* 9.Re1 with 11.e4 #3-N,N 17. Fianchetto - 7.d5 Benoni Transposit*)* 12...Ng4 13.Bxd6 Qb6 14.e5 Ndxe5 15.Nxe5 Nxe5 16.Ne4 Bg4 17.f3 Nd3 18.Qxd3 c4+ 19.Bc5 Qxc5+ 20.Nxc5 cxd3 21.fxg4 Bd4+ 9.Re1 with 11.e4 #1 17. Fianchetto - 7. d5 Benoni Transposit]
[10...a6 11.a4 Nbd7 12.Bf4 Ng4 13.h3 Nge5 14.Qc1 Qe7 15.Bh6 Nxf3+ 16.Bxf3 Bh8 17.Bg2 Rb8 18.a5 b6 19.axb6 Rxb6 20.Bg5 Qf8 21.Na4 Rb8 22.Bd2 Nb6 23.Bc3 Nxa4 24.Rxa4 Bxc3 25.bxc3 1-0 (68) Prohaszka,P (2581)-Roobol, M (2269) Rhodes Summer Cup 2023 (7)]
11.h3 Nc7 0.96/22
[11...Bf5± 0.35/23]
12.e4± Nd7 White is better. **13.Bf4 Ne5 14.Nxe5 Bxe5 15.Bxe5 dxe5 16.d6** 0.18/20
[16.a4± 1.00/22]
16...Ne6= 17.Nd5 Kg7 1.04/22
[17...Kh8!= -0.18/21 keeps the balance.]
18.b4 -0.34/21
[18.f4!± 1.04/22]
18...b6 0.40/22
[18...Qxd6?! 19.Nf6 Qe7 20.Nxe8+ Qxe8 21.Qd6±]
[18...cxb4!∓ -0.34/21 19.Rc1 *(19.Nxb4 Nd4∓)* 19...a5]
19.bxc5 bxc5 20.f4 Rb8!
[20...Qxd6? 21.Nf6 Qxd1 22.Nxe8+ Kf8 23.Raxd1+-]
21.fxe5 And now Qf3 would win.
21...Qg5! 22.Qf3↑ Black is under pressure. **22...Qxe5** Threatens to win with ...Rb2! **23.Rf1 Rf8**
[23...f5 feels hotter. 24.exf5 Nd4 25.f6+ Kf8]
24.Qf6+ Qxf6 25.Nxf6 Rd8 26.e5 Nd4 0.81/23
[26...c4± 0.45/23]
27.Ne4 Bf5 1.08/21
[27...Rb2± 0.46/23]
28.Nxc5± g4 is the strong threat.
28...Rb5 29.Nb7 Rd7 30.Rfd1 -0.19/23
[30.g4± 0.83/25 Bc2 31.Rac1 Rxe5 32.Rxc2 Nxc2 33.Bc6 Rxb7 34.Bxb7]
30...Ne2+= 31.Kf2 -0.75/23
[31.Kh2!= -0.18/25 Rbxb7 32.Bxb7 Rxb7 33.g4]
31...Nc3!∓ Black is more active.
[31...Rxe5? 32.Re1+- *(32.Bc6 Nc3+-)*]
32.Rd4? -3.13/23
[32.Rdc1 Rb2+ 33.Kf1 Bd3+ 34.Kg1 *(34.Ke1 Re2+ 35.Kf1 Rxe5+ 36.Kf2 Ne4+ 37.Kg1 Rxb7∓)* 34...Ne2+ *(34...Rxa2? 35.Rxa2 Nxa2 36.Rc7+-)* 35.Kh1 Rdxb7-+ *(35...Rbxb7 36.Bxb7 Rxb7 37.Rd1∓)*]
[32.Re1!∓ -0.55/22 Rbxb7 *(32...Rdxb7 33.Bxb7 Rxb7 34.Rec1∓)* 33.Bxb7 Rxb7 34.Rec1 Ne4+ 35.Ke3 Nxg3 36.Rc7 Rxc7 37.dxc7]
32...Rb2+-+

[32...Rbxb7 33.Bxb7 Rxb7 34.Kf3∓]
[32...Rxe5 33.Re1 Rb5 34.g4=]

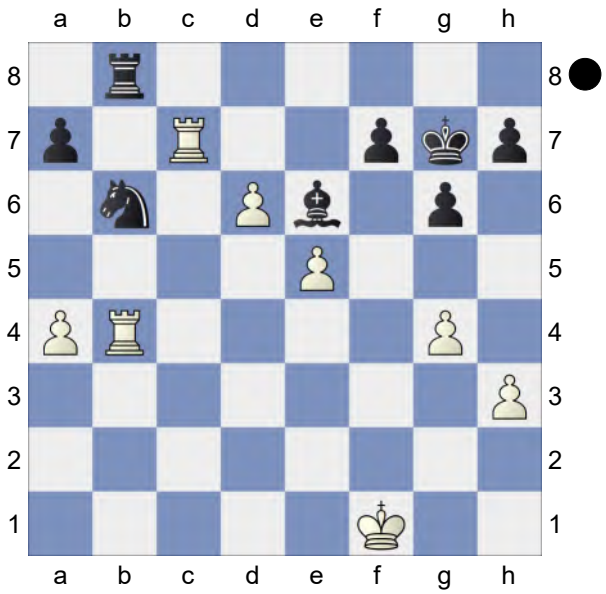
33.Kf1 Rbxb7? -0.49/25
[33...Rdxb7-+ -3.18/21 34.g4 Rb1+ 35.Rxb1 Rxb1+ 36.Kf2 Rb2+ 37.Ke1 Bd7 *(37...Rxg2? 38.gxf5 Rxa2 39.f6+ Kh6 40.d7+-)*]

34.Bxb7∓ Rxb7 35.g4 Be6 36.Rc1 -1.02/24
[36.a4∓ -0.59/23 is superior.]

36...Nd5 -0.51/26
[36...Nxa2∓ -1.02/24 37.Rc7 Rb8]

37.a4 Nb6 0.00/31
[37...Rb8!∓ -0.57/22]

38.Rc7 Rb8 39.Rb4? -1.60/22
[Better is 39.d7= 0.00/23 Nxd7 40.Rcxd7 Bxd7 41.Rxd7]

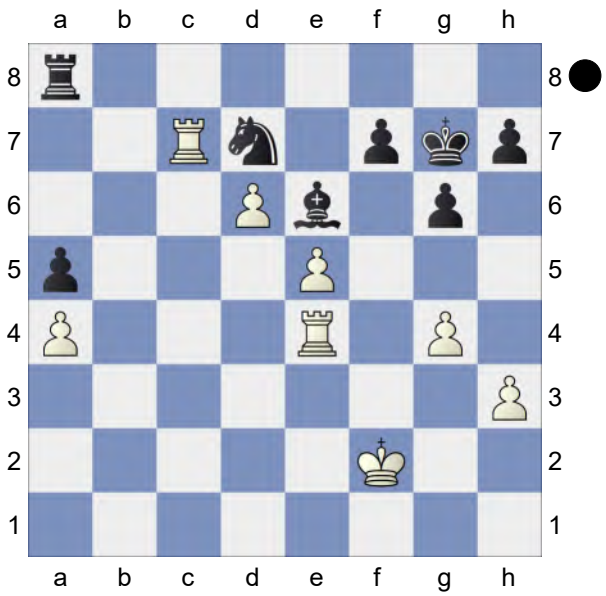


39...Ra8!∓ 40.Rd4 -1.78/20
[40.Re4∓ -1.35/21]

40...Nd7-+ 41.Re4 a5 -0.72/26
[41...a6-+ -1.84/20 is more deadly. Strongly threatening ...Rb8. 42.Ke2 Rb8]

42.Kf2 -1.45/22
[⌓42.h4 -0.72/26]

(Diagram)



42...g5!∓ 43.Re3 Rb8 -0.27/20
[43...Nb6∓ -1.54/25 ...Nd5! would now be deadly. 44.Re1 Nd5 *(44...Nxa4 45.Rb1=)*]

44.Ra7= Rb2+ 45.Ke1 -0.71/22
[45.Re2∓ -0.32/25 Rb4 46.Rxa5]

45...Rb1+
[45...h5!? 46.gxh5 Kh6 47.Rxa5 Ra2=]

46.Kd2 -1.24/20
[White should play 46.Kf2!∓ -0.59/22]

46...Nb6∓ 47.Kc2 Ra1 48.Ra6? -2.62/25
[48.Rb3∓ -0.60/22 Ra2+ *(48...Bxb3+ 49.Kxb3 Re1 50.Rb7∓; 48...Nxa4 49.Rb5=)* 49.Rb2 Rxb2+ 50.Kxb2 Nxa4+ 51.Kc2]

48...Nc4
[48...Nxa4 49.Rxa5 Ra2+ 50.Kc1∓]

49.Re4 -2.31/24
[⌓49.Rd3 -1.74/24 Nxe5 *(49...Rxa4 50.d7=)* 50.Re3]

49...Ra2+-+
[49...Rxa4 50.Rc6 Kf8 *(50...Bd5? 51.Rexc4 Bxc6 52.Rxc6+-)* 51.Ra6]

50.Kc3 -2.83/23
[⌓50.Kc1 -1.78/22 Rxa4 51.Rc6]

50...Ra3+ 51.Kd4? -3.77/21

[51.Kc2 -2.05/22 only move. Ra2+ *(51...Rxh3 52.Rxc4 Bxc4 53.d7=; 51...Rxa4? 52.Rc6-+)* 52.Kc3 Rxa4 53.Re2 *(53.d7? Ra3+* Skewer *54.Kc2 Bxd7-+)*]

51...Nd2

[51...Rxh3 52.d7 Bxd7 53.Kxc4=]

[51...Rxa4 52.Kc5=]

52.Re2 -6.13/21

[⩲52.d7 -3.88/18 Bxd7 *(52...Rxh3? 53.Rxe6 Nb3+ 54.Kc4+-)* 53.Re3 Rxa4+ 54.Kc5]

52...Rxa4+ -2.91/24

[⩲52...Nb3+ -6.13/21 53.Kc3 Nc5+ Discovered Attack (Check), Double Attack *(53...Rxa4? 54.d7-+)* 54.Kb2 Rb3+ *(54...Nxa4+?* perishes. *55.Kxa3 Nc5 56.Rxa5+-; 54...Rxa4? 55.d7-+; 54...Rxh3? 55.Rxa5 Nd3+ 56.Kc2-+)* 55.Kc1 Nxa6]

53.Kc5 Nb3+ 54.Kb6 Rb4+ 55.Kc7 Nd4 Dodges Rc2 **56.Rd2 Rc4+ 57.Kb6 Nf3?** 0.00/30

[57...Bd7-+ -2.84/23 58.Ra7 Rb4+ 59.Kc7 Nb5+ 60.Kxd7 Nxa7]

58.d7= Bxd7 59.Rxd7 Nxe5 Endgame. KRR-KRN **60.Rd5 Re4 61.Kxa5**

[61.Rdxa5 Nc4+ 62.Kb7 Nxa5+ 63.Rxa5 h6⩲]

61...h6 62.Ra7? -6.12/28 Black keeps a firm grip on the game.

[62.Kb5= -0.02/27]

62...Nc6+-+ 63.Kb6 Nxa7 64.Kxa7 KR-KR **64...Re3 65.h4 gxh4 66.Rh5 h3 67.Kb6 f6 68.Kc6 Kg6 69.Kd6 Rg3 70.Kd5 Rxg4 71.Rxh3 h5 72.Ra3 h4 73.Ra8 Kf5 74.Rh8 Kf4 75.Ke6 f5 76.Rh5 Kg3** aiming for ...h3. **77.Rxf5 h3** White must now prevent ... h2. **78.Ra5 h2 79.Ra3+ Kh4 80.Ra8 Rg1**

[Stronger than 80...h1B 81.Rh8+ Kg3 82.Rxh1=]

81.Rh8+ Kg3

Weighted Error Value: White=0.50/ Black=0.42

0-1

C24

□ **Aronian,L** **2747**

■ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**

CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (7.2) 19.12.24

[Kitty Kat]

C24: Bishop's Opening: 2...Nf6

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Nf6 3.d3 c6 4.Nf3 d5 5.Bb3 a5 Hoping for ...a4. **6.a4 Bb4+ 7.c3 Bd6 8.exd5 cxd5 9.Bg5 Be6 10.Na3 Nbd7 11.Nb5 Bb8 12.d4 e4 13.Nd2 h6**

[13...0-0 14.Nf1 h6 15.Bh4 Bf4 16.h3 Re8 17.g3 Bb8 18.g4 Nf8 19.Ne3 Ng6 20.Bxf6 Qxf6 21.Bxd5 Bxd5 22.Nxd5 Qg5 23.c4 Bf4 24.Qb3 h5 25.Ne3 Qh4 26.gxh5 Qxh5 27.Qd1 Qh6 28.Nf5 0-1 (55) Gazi,M (2804)-Panov Botvinnik Attack (2773) TCh-Playoffs 2001 (2)]

14.Bh4 Nf8N 0.32/20

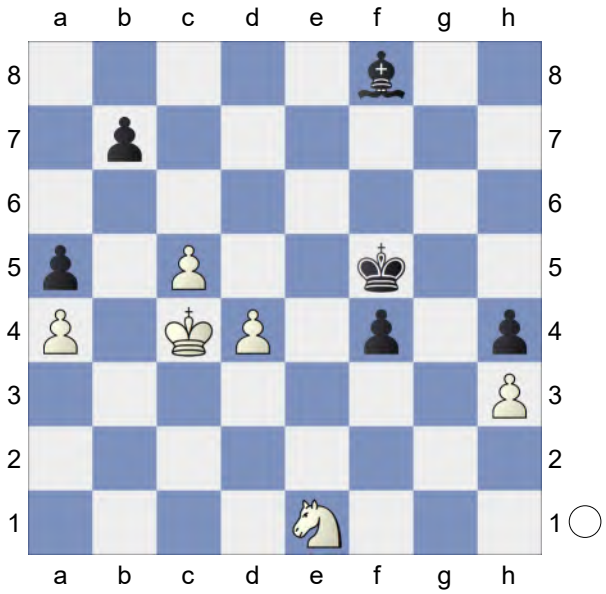
[14...0-0= -0.06/19]

[14...Bf4 15.c4 dxc4 16.Nxc4 *(16.Bxc4 Qe7 17.0-0 0-0 18.b3 Bxc4 19.Nxc4 Qe6* 27. Bishop's Opening-Bishop's Opening 4.Nf3 #06 *)* 16...Qe7 17.0-0 Qb4 18.d5 Bxd5 19.Ncd6+ Bxd6 20.Bxd5 Be5 21.Bxb7 Rd8 22.Qe1 0-0 23.Qxb4 axb4 24.f4 Bxb2 25.Rab1 Rb8 26.Rxb2 Rxb7 27.Rxb4 Rc8 27. Bishop's Opening-Bishop's Opening 4.Nf3 #07]

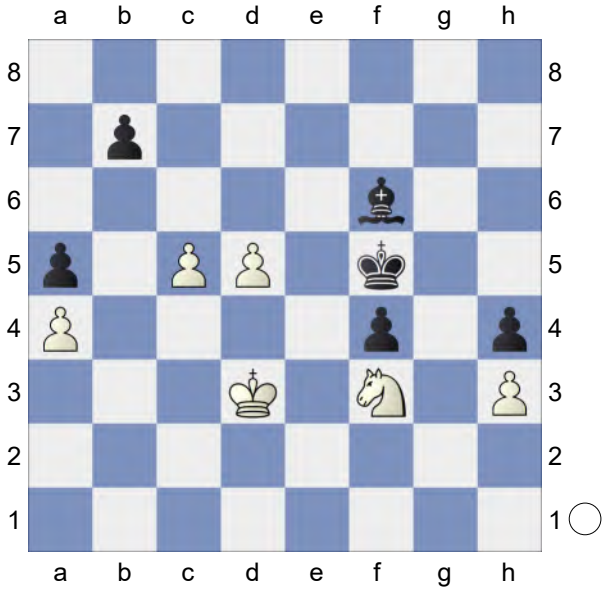
15.f3 -0.55/21

[15.c4± 0.32/20]

15...Ng6!∓ 16.Bxf6 Qxf6 17.g3 -0.79/22 Inhibits Qh4.
[17.fxe4= -0.29/21 Qh4+ 18.Kf1 dxe4 *(18...Bxh2? 19.exd5 Qf4+ 20.Nf3+-)* 19.Qe1 *(19.Bxe6? fxe6 20.Qe1 0-0+ 21.Kg1 Nf4-+)* 19...Qf4+ *(19...Bxh2? 20.Qxh4 Nxh4 21.Rxh2+-)* 20.Qf2 Bxb3 21.Qxf4 Nxf4 22.Nxb3]
17...exf3 0.30/23
[17...Nh4!∓ -0.79/22 aiming for ...e3! 18.Qe2 *(18.gxh4 e3∓)* 18...Nxf3+ *(18...exf3 19.Qf2=)* 19.Nxf3 exf3]
18.Qxf3= Qxf3 19.Nxf3 Kd7 20.0-0 Bd6 21.Rf2 Rae8 22.Bc2 Ne7 23.Nh4 Bb8 24.Raf1 Ref8 0.61/20
[Black should try 24...h5= 0.07/21]
25.Kg2 White has more active pieces.
25...h5 26.Nf3
[26.Bg6!? f6 27.b3±]
26...f6 27.Nh4 Re8 28.Re1 Bf7 29.Rfe2 0.09/22
[Better is 29.Bb1± 0.60/20]
29...g5 30.Nf5 Nxf5 31.Bxf5+ Kd8 32.Be6 Bxe6 33.Rxe6 Kd7 34.Rxe8 Rxe8 35.Rxe8 Kxe8 Endgame. KB-KN
36.b3 Kd7 37.c4 Ke6 38.Nc3 dxc4 39.bxc4 f5 40.c5 -0.23/24
[40.Ne2± 0.36/24]
40...Bc7 41.Kf3 Bd8 42.Ke3 Bf6 43.Kd3 Bg7 0.82/24
[43...Bd8= 0.15/24 keeps the balance.]
44.Nb5!± h4 1.34/24
[44...Bh8± 0.63/24]
45.gxh4 gxh4 46.h3 0.24/27
[46.Kc4± 1.55/25]
46...Bf8= Dodges Nd6 **47.Nc7+ Kd7** 1.03/28
[47...Kf6!± 0.41/27]
48.Nd5!± Ke6? 4.27/26
[48...Bh6± 0.95/26 is tougher.]
49.Nf4++- Kf6 50.Ng2 Kg5 51.Kc4 f4 52.Ne1 Kf5



Threatens to win with ...Ke4. **53.Kd3**
[Inferior is 53.Kd5 Be7=]
53...Be7 54.Nf3 Bd8 5.27/25
[54...Bf8 3.55/26 was worth a try. 55.Nxh4+ Kg5 56.Nf3+ Kf5]
55.d5 Bf6



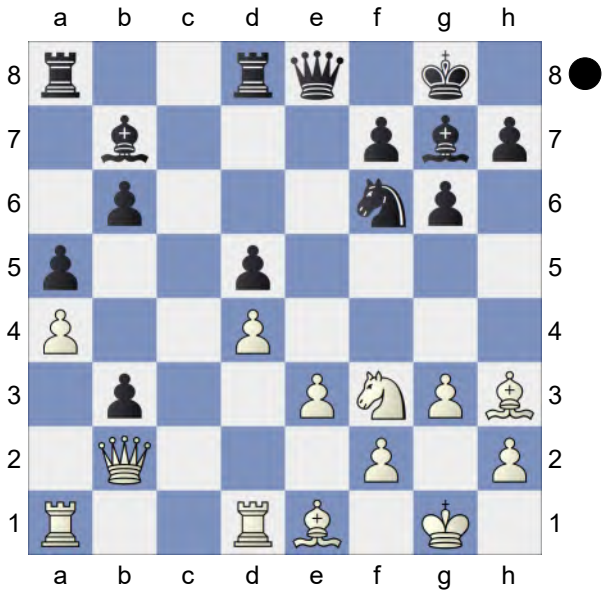
56.c6? 0.01/25
[56.Kc4!+- 5.70/24 Bd8 *(56...Ke4? 57.c6+-)* 57.c6 bxc6 58.dxc6]
56...bxc6= The position is equal.
57.dxc6 Ke6! 58.Kc4
[58.c7!? Kd7□ 59.Nd2±]

58...Kd6 59.Kb5 Bd8 60.Nd2 Kd5 61.Nf3 Strongly threatening Nxh4! **61...Kd6! 62.Ne1 Kd5 63.Nf3** Black must now prevent Nxh4! **63...Kd6!** Black defended with fortune.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.24 (precise) /Black=0.28 (precise)
½-½

A05

□ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**
■ **Carlsen,M** **2831**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (7.2) 19.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

A30: Symmetrical English: Double Fianchetto and Hedgehog
1.Nf3 Nf6 2.b3 g6 3.Bb2 Bg7 4.g3 b6
[4...0-0 5.Bg2 a5 *(5...d6 6.0-0 e5 7.d3 c5 8.Nbd2 Nc6 9.e4 Bg4 10.h3 Bd7 11.Nc4 Ne8 12.Nfd2 f5 13.f4 exf4 14.Bxg7 Nxg7 15.gxf4 Nh5 16.e5 dxe5 17.fxe5 Qc7 18.Nf3 Rae8 19.Re1 Re7 20.a4* 0-1 (55) Koul,N (1448)-Ivanova,A (1840) Asia-ch U20 Girls 2023 (5)) 6.0-0 a4 7.b4 d5 8.Na3 Nbd7 9.c4 Re8 10.d3 e5 11.Qc2 c6 12.e4 Bf8 13.exd5 Bxb4 14.dxc6 bxc6 15.c5 Ba6 16.Nc4 a3 17.Bxe5 Bxc5 18.d4 Nxe5 19.Nfxe5 1-0 (57) Timman,J (2630)-Piket,J (2550) Harlingen 1991 (1)]
5.Bg2 Bb7 6.0-0 0-0 7.c4N
[7.d3 c5 8.e4 Nc6 *(8...d6 9.Nbd2 Nbd7 10.Qe2 Qc7 11.c4 a6 12.d4 cxd4 13.Nxd4 Nc5 14.Rac1 e5 15.Nc2 Bh6* A 05/05 2000) 9.Re1 d6 10.c3 e5 11.Nbd2 d5 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.a3 a5 14.c4 Nf6 15.Nxe5 Nxe5 16.Bxe5 Bxg2 17.Kxg2 Qxd3 18.Bxf6 Bxf6 19.Ne4 Qd4 20.Qf3 Bg7 21.Rad1 Qb2 (56) Exam Time-Petrosian Vs D Paravyan,T]
[7.a4 d5 8.d4 Nfd7 9.Na3 c5 10.c3 e5 11.dxe5 Nxe5 12.Nxe5 Bxe5 13.Nc4 Bg7 14.Ne3 Na6 15.Nxd5 Nb4 16.e4 f5 17.Qb1 fxe4 18.Nxb4 cxb4 19.cxb4 Bxb2 20.Qxb2 Qe7 21.b5 e3 ½-½ (48) Leskowsky,Z-Martinovsky,E NAICCC VII corr ICCF 1993]
7...e6 8.e3 c5 9.d4 Na6 10.Qe2 d5 11.Rd1 The position is equal. **11...Qe7 12.Nc3 Rfd8 13.cxd5 exd5 14.Rac1 Rac8 15.Bh3 Ra8 16.Nb5** -0.17/21
[16.a3 0.25/18 was preferrable.]
16...Nb4= 17.a3 Na2 18.Ra1 a6! 19.Nc3 -0.48/21
[19.dxc5!= 0.00/20 deserves consideration. axb5 20.c6 Bxc6 21.Rxa2]
19...Nxc3∓ 20.Bxc3 c4 21.Bb4 Qe8 22.a4 a5
[22...cxb3?! 23.a5∓]
23.Be1 cxb3 24.Qb2



b5!
[Not 24...Qe4 25.Ne5± *(25.Nd2 Qe7∓; 25.Nd2 Qe7∓)*]

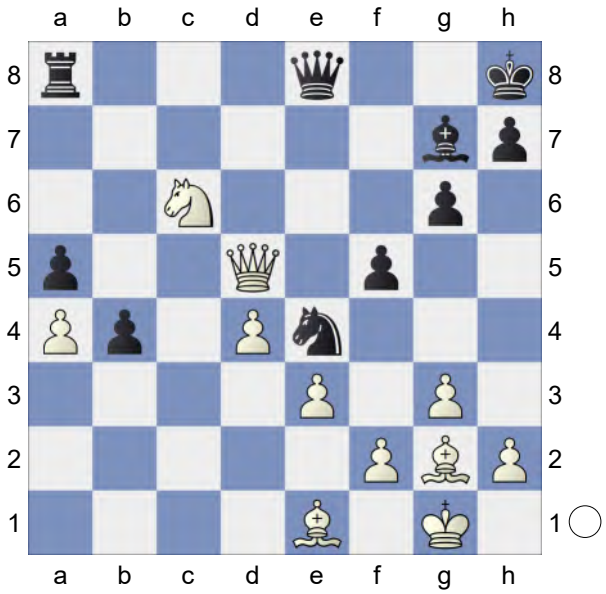
25.Qxb3 b4 26.Rdc1 Bc8 27.Bg2 Ba6 28.Ne5 Repels Bc4 **28...Rac8** Against Rc7 **29.Bh3** Inhibits Qe6. **29...Rxc1 30.Rxc1 Ne4** Wards off Rc5 **31.Nc6 Bc4 32.Rxc4 dxc4 33.Qxc4 Ra8** ...b3! would now be deadly. **34.Bg2! Kh8↑** -0.01/24 Black fights for an advantage.

[34...Bf8∓ -0.66/23]

35.Qd5 -0.55/21

[35.Nxa5= -0.01/24 Rxa5 36.Bxe4 Rxa4 37.Bc6]

35...f5!



Threatens to win with ...b3! **36.Nxa5 Rc8** -0.01/23

[36...Bf8∓ -0.52/24]

37.Bxe4=

[Of course not 37.Bxb4 Qxa4 38.Bxe4 fxe4∓ *(38...Qxb4 39.Bd3=)*]

37...fxe4 38.Bxb4 -0.94/25

[38.Kg2= -0.01/23 remains equal.]

38...Qxa4∓ 39.Qb7 -3.38/25

[39.Be1∓ -0.97/23]

39...Qd1+-+ 40.Kg2 Qf3+ 41.Kh3 Qh5+? -0.01/5

[41...Rg8-+ -4.01/23 (-> ...g5!) 42.Be7 Qxf2]

42.Kg2= Qf3+ 43.Kh3 Qh5+? -0.01/5

Weighted Error Value: White=0.26 (precise) /Black=0.32

[Black should play 43...Rg8-+ -3.84/22 44.Be7 Qxf2]

½-½

D80

□ **So,W** **2747**

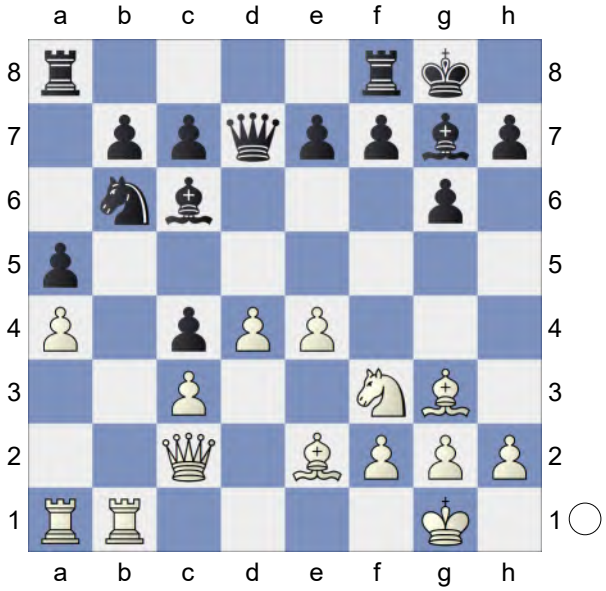
■ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**

CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (7.2) 19.12.24

[Kitty Kat]

D80: Grünfeld: Unusual White 4th moves and 4 Bg5

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Bg5 Ne4 5.Bh4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 dxc4 7.e3 Be6 8.Nf3 White has compensation. **8...Nd7 9.Be2 Nb6 10.a4** The position is equal. **10...a5 11.0-0 Bg7 12.Qc2 0-0 13.Rfb1 Qd7 14.Bg3 Bd5 15.e4 Bc6**



16.Rxb6! cxb6 17.d5!

[17.Bxc4 b5 18.Bf1 bxa4∓]

17...Bxa4 18.Rxa4

[18.Qxa4 Qxa4 19.Rxa4 b5-+]

18...b5 19.Ra2 b4 20.cxb4

[20.Bxc4 b5 21.Bd3 Bxc3∓

(21...bxc3 22.Qd1-+)]

20...axb4 21.Bxc4 Ra3 22.Ne5N

[22.Rxa3 bxa3 23.Qa2 Qa4 24.h4 Qd1+ 25.Kh2 Qa1 26.e5 Qxa2 27.Bxa2 Rc8 28.d6 exd6 29.exd6 Bf6 30.Ng5 Rc2 31.Bxf7+ Kg7 32.Bb3 a2 33.Ne6+ Kh8 34.Bxa2 Rxa2 35.d7 Rd2 36.Nc5 Be7 ½-½ (101) Tomashevsky,E (2696)-Vachier Lagrave,M (2795) Moscow Grand Prix 2017 (8.5) 37.Nxb7 Rxd7 38.Na5 Rd5 39.Nc4 Kg8 40.Ne3 Rd4 41.Kh3 h5 42.f3 Kf7 43.Bf2 Rd2 44.Bg3 Ke6 45.Bf4 Rd3 46.Nf1 Rd1 47.Ng3 Rb1 48.Bc7 Bf6 49.Bf4 Bd8 50.Be3 Bc7 51.Bg5 Kd5 ½-½ (101) Subirana Rafart,G (2696)-4.d4 ♘f6 5.♘f3 ♘c6 (2795) Karlovac 27/195 1979 (8.5)]

22...Qc8 0.62/22

[22...Bxe5= -0.16/22 23.Bxe5 Rc8 24.Rxa3 bxa3]

23.Rxa3!±

[23.d6? b3 *(23...Rc3 24.d7=)* 24.Bxf7+ *(24.Rxa3? bxc2 25.Rc3 exd6-+)* 24...Kh8-+]

23...bxa3 Black is weak on the light squares **24.Qa2** aiming for d6. White is more active.

[24.d6 Bxe5 25.dxe7 *(25.Bxe5? b5-+)* 25...Re8 26.Bxe5 b5∓ *(26...Rxe7? 27.Bxf7+* Discovered Attack *Kxf7 28.Qxc8+-)*]

24...Qc5 1.42/20 White leaves nothing to chance now.

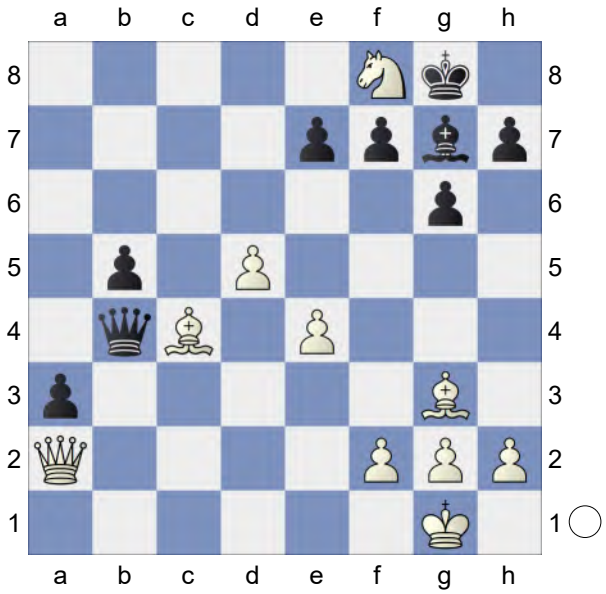
[24...Rd8± 0.47/20]

25.Nd7!↑ White is on the roll. **25...Qb4 26.Nxf8 b5**

(Diagram)

27.Bd3 Bxf8 2.75/21

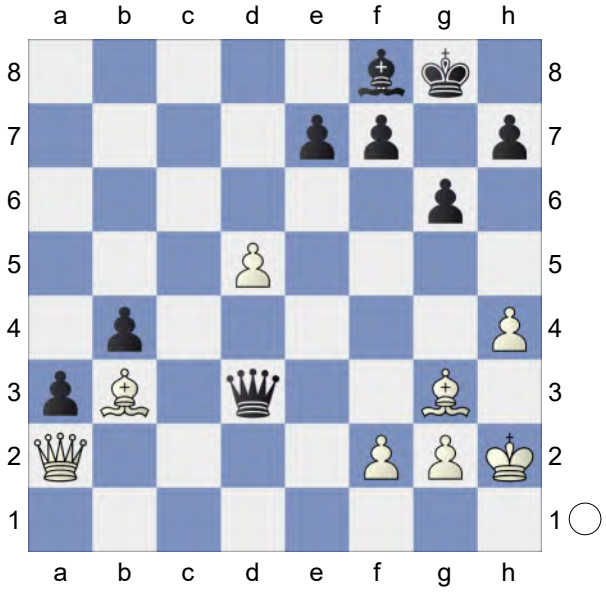
[⌓27...Kxf8 1.84/21 28.h4 Bd4]



28.h4+- Qe1+ 29.Kh2 b4 30.Bc4 Strongly threatening d6! **30...Qxe4 31.Bb3** d6! would now be deadly.

31...Qd3? 4.40/23

[31...Qf5 2.37/22 keeps fighting. 32.Qe2 Qc8]

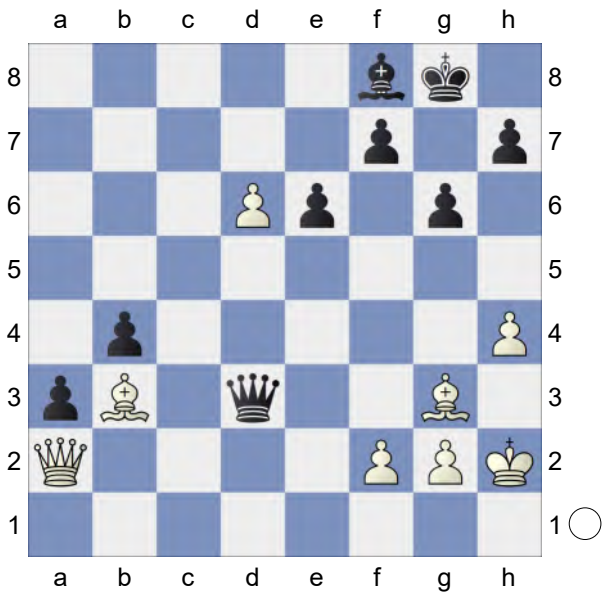


32.d6! e6

(Diagram)

33.Bxe6! Bxd6

[Worse is 33...fxe6 34.Qxe6+ Kg7



35.d7 Kh6 36.Bf4+ Kg7 37.Be5+ Kh6 38.Qf6]

34.Bxf7+ Kg7 35.Bxd6 Qxd6+ 36.g3 Qf6 37.Bd5 Qd4 38.Kg2 h6 39.Bb3 Qe4+ 40.Kh2 Threatens to win with Qa1+. **40...Qf3 41.Kg1 Qc3 42.Qb1 Kf6 43.Qd1 Ke7** Against Qd8+ **44.Qd5 h5** 8.52/27

[⌓44...g5 5.00/21 45.hxg5 hxg5 46.Qxg5+ Kd7]

45.Kg2 Ke8 46.Qe6+ Kd8 47.Qd6+ Kc8 48.Be6+? 3.65/5

[48.Bd5 9.14/28 Qb2 49.Qa6+ *(49.Qxg6 Qe5+-)* 49...Kd7 50.Qe6+ *(50.Qxg6 Qe5+-)* 50...Kd8 51.Qxg6]

48...Kb7 49.Bd5+ White is clearly winning. **49...Ka7 50.Qxg6 Qc5 51.Qxh5 Kb6 52.Qf7**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.39

1-0

B30

□ **Nepomniachtchi,I 2755**

■ **Lazavik,Denis 2578**

CCT Final Survival W 2024 rapid (1.1)

[Kitty Kat]

B30: Sicilian: 2...Nc6 3 Bb5, lines without ...g6

Vasiukov,E: 'Inf 20/370' **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5**

[3.c4 e5 4.Nc3 g6 5.g3 Bg7 6.Bg2 Nge7 7.d3 d6 8.0-0 0-0 9.Be3 f5 10.Qd2 Nd4 11.Ne1 Rb8 12.f4 exf4 13.gxf4 b5 14.Nxb5 Nxb5 15.cxb5 Rxb5 16.Rb1 Bb7 17.b3 Qa8 0-1 (43) Cortes Ventura,J (2081)-Remmelgas,A (2200) Asia-ch Blitz U20 Girls 2023 (8)]

3...e6 4.0-0 Nge7 5.d4N

[5.c3 d5 6.exd5 Nxd5 7.d4 cxd4 8.cxd4 Be7 9.Nc3 0-0 10.Re1 Bd7 11.Nxd5 *(11.a3 Rc8 12.Bd3 Re8 13.Be4 Nxc3 14.bxc3 Bf6 15.Qd3 g6 16.Bh6 Qc7 17.c4 Red8 18.Rad1 Na5 19.c5 Bc6 20.h4 Bxe4 21.Qxe4 Rd5 22.Bf4 Qd8 23.Bd6 Nc4 24.Bg3 Rcxc5 25.dxc5 Rxd1* 1-0 (72) Grischuk,A (2709)-Radjabov,T (2728) World Blitz Rishon Le Zion ISR 2006 (2)) 11...exd5 12.Qb3 Nb4 13.Rxe7 Qxe7 14.Bxd7 Nxa2 15.Bf5 Nxc1 16.Rxc1 g6 17.Bh3 Rad8 18.g3 Rfe8 19.Ne5 Rd6 1-0 (30) Vasiukov,E-Timoscenko,G USSR 20/370 1975 20.Rc5 Rb6 21.Qc3 f6 22.Rc7 Qd6 23.Rd7 Qf8 24.Nd3 Rd8 25.Nc5 Qe8 26.Be6+ Kh8 27.Bf7 Qf8 28.Ne6 Rxd7 29.Nxf8 Rxf7 30.Qc8 1-0 8.♘a3 ♗e7 9.♘c2 ♗g5 10-Siemer,A ICCF GMN/032 email 2011]

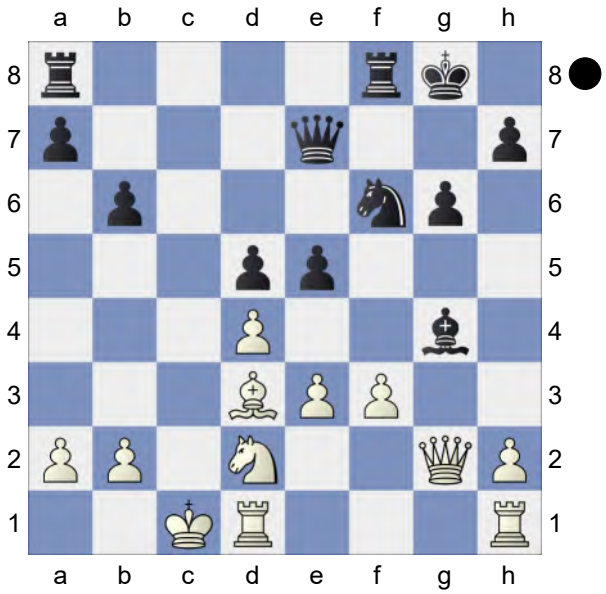
5...cxd4 6.Nxd4 Ng6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Be2 0-0 White has an edge. **9.c4**

Nxd4 10.Qxd4 b6 11.Nc3 Bb7 12.Rad1 Bc6 13.Qd2 Bb4 14.f3 Qf6 15.Rc1 Rfd8 1.04/22
[15...Bc5± 0.31/19]
16.a3 0.42/22
[16.Bg5± 1.04/22 Qe5 17.Bxd8 Bc5+ 18.Kh1 Rxd8 19.f4]
16...Bc5± 17.b4 Bxe3+ 18.Qxe3 Qf4 0.35/21
[18...d5= -0.05/22 19.exd5 exd5 20.cxd5 Bxd5]
19.Qxf4 Nxf4 20.Rfd1 Kf8 21.Bf1 g5 22.Kf2 0.12/21
[22.a4± 0.49/21]
22...Ke7 23.Ke3 Ng6 24.Ne2 Rac8 25.Nd4 h5 26.Rd3 Ne5 27.Rdc3 d6! 28.g3 Nd7 29.Be2 Bb7 30.Nb3 Rc7 31.a4 h4 32.a5 hxg3 33.hxg3 Rh8 34.axb6 axb6 35.Nd4 Nf6 0.38/22
[35...g4= 0.01/23 is more appropriate.]
36.c5 bxc5 37.bxc5 dxc5 38.Rxc5 Rxc5 39.Rxc5 Rc8 Against Rc7+ **40.Rxg5** White is more active. **40...Rc3+ 41.Kd2 Ra3 42.Rb5** 0.01/23
[42.Nc2± 0.76/21 Ra2 43.Bc4]
42...Bxe4!= The position is equal. **43.fxe4 Nxe4+ 44.Kc2 Rxg3 45.Rb3**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.09 (flawless)
½-½

A45
□ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**
■ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**
CCT Final Survival W 2024 rapid (1.2)
[Kitty Kat]

D03: 1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Bg5, including Torre Attack with early ...d5
1.d4 Nf6
[1...d5 2.e3 Nf6 3.Bd3 g6 4.f4 Bg7 5.Nf3 0-0 6.0-0 c5 7.c3 b6 8.Qe2 Bb7 9.Bd2 Qc8 10.Be1 Ba6 11.Bh4 Qb7 12.Ne5 Bxd3 13.Nxd3 Ne4 14.f5 Nc6 15.Nd2 c4 16.Nf4 0-1 (25) Abdulla,A (2359)-Rausis,I (2525) Goodricke 12th op 2001 (5)]
2.Bg5 e6N
[2...c5 3.d5 *(3.Nf3 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 e6 6.e3 Bb4 7.Bd3 Qa5 8.Bxf6 Bxc3+ 9.bxc3 Qxc3+ 10.Kf1 gxf6 11.Nb5 Qe5 12.f4 Qb8 13.Qh5 a6 14.Nc3 d5 15.Qh4 f5 16.Bxf5 exf5 17.Nxd5 Be6* 0-1 (31) Janowski, D-Nimzowitsch,A Semmering 353661 1926 *)* 3...d6 *(3...b5 4.Nf3 d6 5.a4 b4 6.e4 Nbd7 7.Nbd2 g6 8.Bb5 Bg7 9.e5 dxe5 10.Nxe5 a6 11.Qe2 Qc7 12.Bxf6 Bxf6 13.d6 Qxd6 14.Nxd7 Bxd7 15.Ne4 Qe5 16.Bxd7+ Kxd7 17.Nxf6+ Qxf6 18.0-0-0+* (25) 4) Trompowsky: 1...Nf6 2.Bg5-2...c5 3.d5 b5 #3 The Trompowsky: Simplified 2023*)* 4.Nc3 g6 5.e4 Bg7 6.f4 0-0 7.Nf3 Nbd7 8.Be2 a6 9.a4 Qb6 10.Qd3 Ng4 11.Nd1 Ndf6 12.Nd2 h6 13.Nc4 Qc7 14.Bh4 Nh5 15.0-0 Bh8 16.h3 Ngf6 17.g4 1-0 (35) Dudics,I (2174)-Badacsonyi,S (1884) Leuven (blitz) 133/(94) 2017 (6)]
3.Nd2 d5 4.e3 c5 5.c3 Be7 6.Bd3 b6 7.Ngf3 0-0 8.Ne5
[8.0-0 simplifies h6 9.Bh4 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Qe2]
8...Nfd7
[8...a5 simplifies 9.Bc2 Qc7 10.Bf4 Bd6]
9.Qh5 f5 10.Nxd7 Nxd7 The position is equal. **11.Bxe7 Qxe7 12.g4** -0.87/21
[12.Nf3= -0.06/19 keeps the balance.]
12...cxd4∓ 13.cxd4 g6 14.Qh3 fxg4 15.Qxg4 e5 Threatens to win with ...

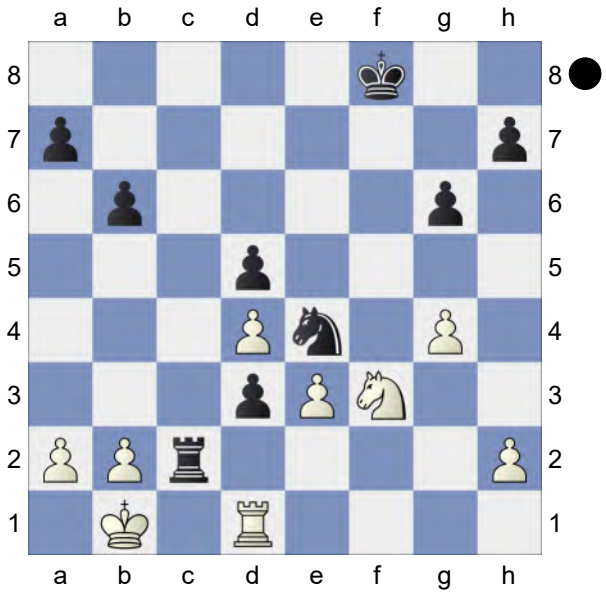
Nc5! **16.Qg2 Nf6** -0.83/20
[Reject 16...exd4?! 17.Qxd5+ Kg7 *(17...Qf7? 18.Bc4+-)* 18.Qxd4+ *(18.Qxa8? too greedy. Nc5-+)* 18...Nf6 19.Rg1∓]
[⩲16...Bb7 -1.36/20 17.0-0 exd4 18.exd4 Rf4]
17.0-0-0 -1.44/21
[⩲17.dxe5 -0.83/20 Qxe5 18.Nf3 Qxb2 19.0-0]
17...Bg4 18.f3 -2.12/22
[18.Rde1∓ -1.34/20]



18...e4!-+ 19.fxg4
[19.fxe4 Bxd1]
19...exd3 20.Kb1 Rac8 White must now prevent ...Rc2! **21.Rhf1 Rc2 22.Qf3 Ne4→** White is in trouble. **23.Qxf8+ Qxf8 24.Rxf8+ Kxf8** Endgame. KRN-KRN **25.Nf3**

(Diagram)

Rf2! 26.Ne5 d2 27.h4 Re2 28.Kc2 -3.02/23
[28.Nf3 -1.95/23 is the only way for White.]
28...Rxe3 29.Rf1+ Ke7 30.Nf3



Prevents Re1 **30...Re2 31.Rd1 Rg2 32.g5 Ke6 33.Nxd2 Kf5**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.31/Black=0.12 (very precise)
0-1

C84
□ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**
■ **Keymer,Vincent** **2733**
CCT Final Survival L 2024 rapid (1.1)
[Kitty Kat]

C87: Closed Ruy Lopez: Steinitz-type lines after 6 Re1 d6
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1
[6.d3 b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.a3 0-0 9.Nc3 Na5 10.Ba2 Be6 11.Bxe6 fxe6 12.b4 Nc6 13.Bd2 *(13.Qe1 Qd7 14.Ne2 a5 15.Bd2 axb4 16.axb4 d5 17.Ng3 Rxa1 18.Qxa1 Bxb4 19.Nxe5 Qd6 20.Bf4 g5 21.Nh5 Nxh5 22.Nf7 Kxf7 23.Bxd6 Bxd6 24.Qc3 Nb8 25.e5 b4 26.Qa1 Be7 27.Qa7 Nf4* 0-1 (42) Abdusattorov,N (2688)-Harikrishna,P (2720) Olympiad-44 Chennai 2022 (6.1) *28.Qxc7 Na6*

29.Qb6 Nc5 30.g3 Ng6 31.d4 Na4 32.Qc6 Nc3 33.Kg2 Ne2 34.Rd1 g4 35.h4 h5 36.Kf1 Nc3 37.Ra1 Re8 38.Ra7 Ne4 39.Ke1 Rb8 40.Qc7 Rb5 41.Ra8 b3 42.Qc8 1-0 Abdusattorov,N (2627)-Keymer,V (2591) Polgar Challenge 2021 (8.3)) 13...d5 14.Re1 Qd6 15.Qe2 Nd7 16.Na2 Nb6 17.Nc1 Rf7 18.Nb3 Raf8 19.Rf1 Qd7 20.Rae1 Bd6 ½-½ (44) Yu,Y (2764)-Ding,L (2816) 2nd Du Te Cup 2018 (3.2)]

6...0-0N

[6...b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.d4 Nxd4 9.Nxd4 exd4 10.c3 dxc3 11.Nxc3 0-0 12.a4 Bb7 13.axb5 axb5 14.Rxa8 Bxa8 15.Bg5 b4 A8) RL – 8th Move Alternati-8th Move Alternatives – 8.]

[6...d6 7.c3 0-0 8.d3 Nd7 9.Nbd2 Nc5 10.Bc2 Ne6 11.Nf1 Bf6 12.Ng3 g6 13.Bh6 Bg7 14.Qd2 Qf6 15.Be3 Nf4 16.d4 Bh6 17.Bd1 Nd8 18.h3 ½-½ Ivkov,B-Keres,P Match/Nation URS-YUG 35,5-19,5 1971 (2)]

7.Bxc6 bxc6 8.Nxe5 Bb7 9.Nc3 Re8 10.Nf3 0.69/20 White is more active.

[10.d4± 1.09/18]

10...c5 11.d3 d5 White is better.

12.Bg5 h6 13.Bh4 0.40/21

[13.Bf4± 0.94/20]

13...dxe4± 14.dxe4

[14.Ne5 seems wilder. Qd4 15.Bg3 Bd6 16.Ne2]

14...Nxe4 Discovered Attack **15.Qxd8** 0.12/22

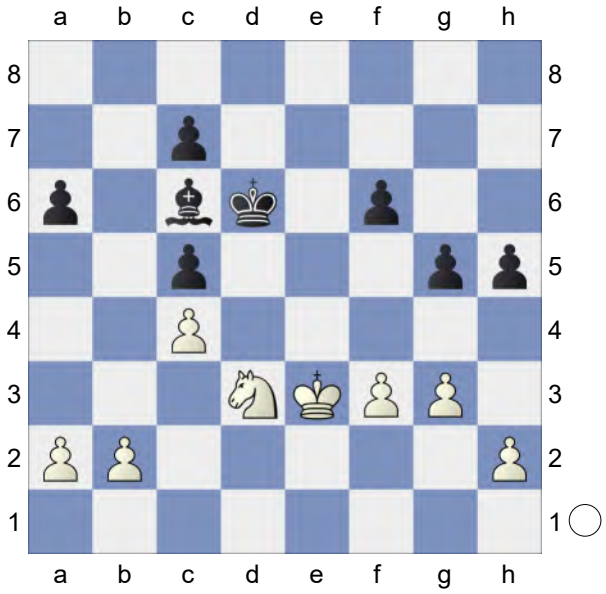
[15.Nxe4± 0.50/23 deserves consideration. Qxd1 16.Raxd1 Bxh4 17.Nxc5 Bxf3 18.gxf3]

15...Bxd8= This pair of bishops is nice.

16.Nxe4 Bxe4 17.Nd2 Bc6 18.Rxe8+ Bxe8 19.Bxd8 Rxd8 Endgame. KRB-KRN **20.Nc4 f6 21.Ne3 Rd2 22.Rd1 Rxd1+ 23.Nxd1** KB-KN **23...Kf7 24.f3 Ke6 25.Kf2 g5 26.Ke3 Bg6 27.c4 Be8 28.g3 Bc6 29.Nf2 h5** 1.10/25

[29...Bb7± 0.32/21]

30.Nd3 Kd6



31.f4 0.30/25

[31.h4!± 0.93/25]

31...h4 0.77/25

[31...g4= 0.30/25]

32.gxh4± gxh4 33.f5 a5 34.Kf4 Bg2 35.Nf2 Ke7 36.b3 Bf1? 3.56/30 Loses the game.

[36...Kd6± 1.27/29 is a better defense. 37.Ne4+ Bxe4 38.Kxe4 Kc6]

37.Ne4+-

[37.Kg4 Be2+ 38.Kxh4 Kd6 39.Ne4+ Ke5 40.Nxc5 Kxf5+-]

37...Bd3? 3.76/28

[37...a4 2.22/27 38.bxa4 *(38.Nxc5 a3+-)* 38...Bxc4]

38.Nxc5 Bb1

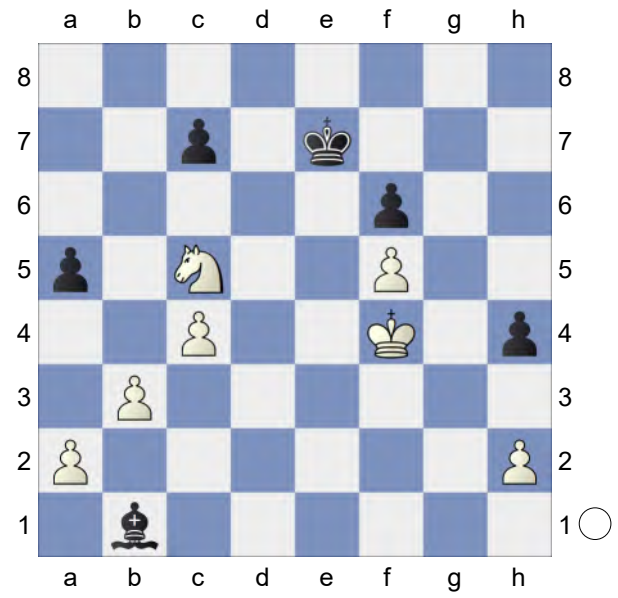
(Diagram)

39.a3

[39.Nb7 Bxa2 40.Nxa5 c5=]

39...Ba2 40.Kg4 a4? 5.76/29

[40...h3 3.43/25 41.Kxh3 Kd6



42.Nb7+ Ke5 43.Nxa5 Kxf5]

41.b4

[41.Nxa4 Bxb3 42.Nc3 Bxc4=]

[41.Kxh4 axb3 42.Na4 Kd6-+]

41...Bxc4 42.Nxa4

[42.Kxh4 Bb3 43.Kg4 Kf7]

42...Kd6 43.Kf4 Kd5 44.Nc3+ Kd6 45.Ne4+ Ke7 46.a4 Bb3 47.a5 Bc4 48.Nd2 Bd3 49.Nf3 h3 50.Nd2 Bb5 51.Ne4 Bc4 52.Nf2 Kd6 10.81/26

[⌓52...Bf1 4.48/25 53.Ke4 Ba6 54.Nxh3 Kd6]

53.Nxh3 Kc6 54.Nf2 Kb5 55.h4 Kxb4 56.h5 Kxa5 57.h6 White mates.

57...Bg8 58.Ne4 c5 59.Nxc5

Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.59

1-0

A15

□ **Keymer,Vincent** **2733**

■ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**

CCT Final Survival L 2024 rapid (1.2)

[Kitty Kat]

A29: English Opening: Four Knights Variation with 4 g3

1.c4 Nf6 2.g3 e5 3.Bg2 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.Nc3 Nb6 6.a3N

[6.d3

A) 6...Be7 7.Be3 0-0 8.Rc1 Re8 *(8...c6 9.Nf3 f6 10.Qb3+ Kh8 11.0-0 Na6 12.Rfd1 Nd5 13.Nxd5 cxd5 14.Ne1 d4 15.Bd2 Nc5 16.Qc2 Qb6 17.b4 Na6 18.a3 Be6 19.Qb1 Nc7 20.Rc2 Nb5 21.Qb2 f5 22.Rdc1 e4 23.a4* 1-0 (39) 7.e3 c5 8. ♗e2 (2008)-Szittar,A (2039) Russian Blitz Internet Cup Superfinal 2004 (2)*)* 9.a3 Bf8 10.Nf3 N8d7 11.0-0 c6 12.Qb3 Nc5 13.Qc2 Bg4 14.b4 Ncd7 15.h3 Bf5 16.Nd2 h6 17.Rb1 Rc8 18.Rfc1 Nf6 19.Bc5 Nfd7 20.Nce4 Qc7 21.a4 1-0 (41) 10. ♗a3 b6 11.ba5 ♘h5 1525 (2767)-9.00 ♘bd7 10. b3 67550 (2706) SSZ FT-97 corr Switzerland 1938 (11);

B) 6...Nc6 7.Nh3 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.f4 Rb8 10.f5 Nd4 11.Be4 f6 12.g4 Bc5 13.Kh1 Bd7 14.e3 Nc6 15.Qf3 Be8 16.a3 a5 17.Rg1 Be7 18.Nf2 g6 19.Bd2 g5 20.Rg2 Rf7 1-0 (35) Gordon,H-Ennis,H ENG corr England 1964]

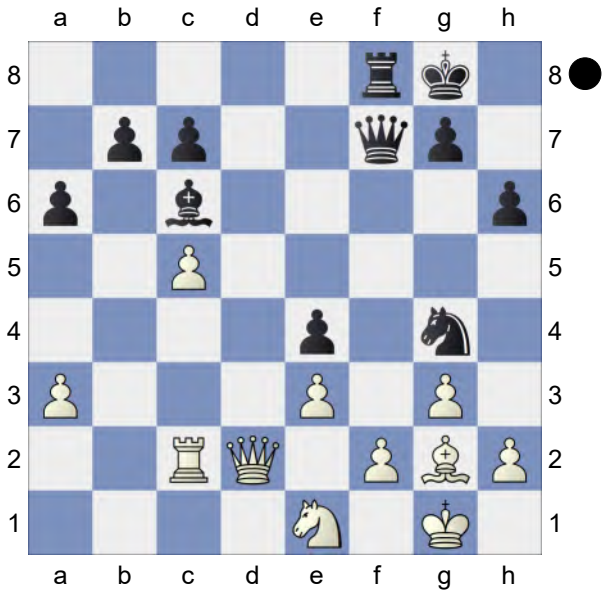
[6.e3 Be7 *(6...Nc6 7.Nge2 h5 8.h3 h4 9.g4 f5 10.gxf5 Bxf5 11.d4 Qf6 12.d5 Qg6 13.Rg1 Bc2 14.Be4 Qxe4 15.Nxe4 Bxd1 16.dxc6 0-0-0 17.Bd2 Bc2 18.cxb7+ Kxb7 19.Ng5 Re8 20.Rc1 Bd3 21.Rg4* 0-1 (42) Stockfleth,R (2515)-9.Nf3 Nbd7 10.b4 c6 (2467) 84/126 Cuba 2002*)* 7.Nge2 0-0 8.0-0 Nc6 9.f4 f6 10.f5 a5 11.g4 a4 12.d4 Ra5 13.Kh1 Kh8 14.d5 Nb4 15.e4 c6 16.a3 Na6 17.Qc2 Qc7 18.Be3 Bc5 19.Bd2 Nc4 20.dxc6 Nxd2 (42) Jones,G (2648)-Collins,S (2469) 123/(14)

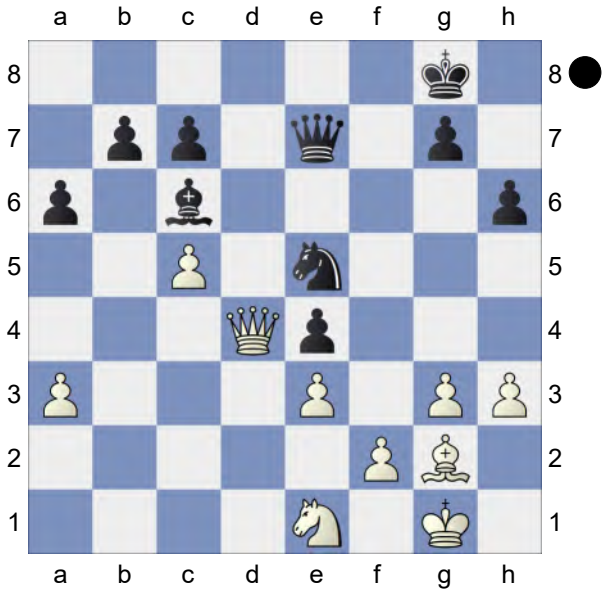
Bunratty 2014]
6...Be7 7.Nf3 Nc6 8.b4 Be6 9.0-0 0-0 10.d3 f6 11.Bb2 Qd7 12.Rc1 -0.13/19
[⌓12.Ne4 0.27/20]
12...Rad8 0.44/20
[Black should play 12...a5= -0.13/19]
13.Ne4!± Bd5 14.Qc2 White is slightly better. **14...a6 15.Rfd1 Qe6 16.Ned2** Wards off Bb3 **16...Qf7 17.Rb1** 0.13/20
[17.e3± 0.53/20 is more appropriate.]
17...Ba2 18.Ra1 Strongly threatening Bxe5! **18...Be6 19.Rdc1 Rfe8 20.Bc3**
[20.e3 with more complications. Bd5 21.d4 exd4 22.Bxd4 Qh5 23.Bb2]
20...Nd5 21.Ne4 Nxc3 22.Qxc3 Bd5 23.e3 h6
[23...f5 is more complex. 24.Neg5 Qh5 25.e4 Bxg5 26.exd5 Nd4]
24.Rab1 -0.73/22
[24.Ned2= -0.07/19]
24...f5∓ 25.Nc5 Bxc5 26.bxc5 e4 27.dxe4 fxe4 28.Ne1 Ne5 29.Rb4 White is weak on the light squares
29...Bc6 30.Rd4 Rxd4 31.Qxd4 -0.84/21
[31.exd4∓ -0.42/23 feels stronger. Ng4 32.Qb2]
31...Ng4 32.Rc2 Rf8 33.Qd2? -3.02/22
[33.Qb2∓ -0.73/23 might work better.]

(Diagram)

33...Qf6? -0.55/22
[Black should try 33...Qh5!-+ -3.02/22 34.h4 Rxf2 35.Qd8+ Rf8]
34.h3∓ Rd8 Black is more active.
35.Qb4 Ne5 36.Rd2 Rxd2 37.Qxd2 Qe7 38.Qd4 -0.97/22
[38.Nc2∓ -0.49/22]

(Diagram)





38...Nd7!∓ 39.Nc2 Qxc5 40.Nb4 Nxc6 is the strong threat. **40...Qxd4 41.exd4 Nf6 42.Nxc6 bxc6∓** Endgame. KB-KN **43.Bf1** -1.19/25
[⌓43.Kf1 -0.80/25]
43...a5∓ 44.Ba6 -2.67/26
[44.Bg2∓ -1.37/24 was necessary.]
44...Kf7-+ 45.Bb7 c5 46.dxc5 Ke6 Threatens to win with ...Ke5. **47.Kf1?** -2.67/26
[47.f4∓ -0.93/24]
47...Ke5 48.Ke2 Kd4 49.c6 -4.10/24
[⌓49.f3 -2.85/23]

49...Nd5 50.Ba6 Nc3+ 51.Kd2 Nb1+ 52.Kc2 Nxa3+ 53.Kb3 Nb1 Hoping for ...Nc3. **54.Kc2** -6.07/30
[⌓54.Be2 -4.00/24]
54...Nc3 Black is clearly winning. **55.Kb3 Nd1 56.Ka4 Nxf2 57.Be2 Kc5 58.Kxa5 Kxc6** ...Kc5! would now be deadly. **59.Kb4 Kd5 60.Kc3 Ke5 61.h4 Nh1**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.52/ Black=0.18 (very precise)
0-1

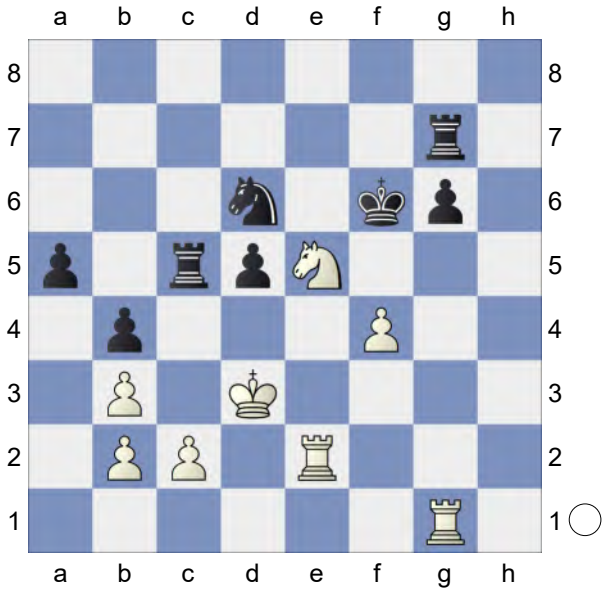
D85
□ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**
■ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**
CCT Final Survival L 2024 rapid (2.1)
[Kitty Kat]

D85: Exchange Grünfeld: Unusual White 7th moves and lines with 7 Nf3
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.Bd2 Bg7 6.e4 Nxc3 7.Bxc3 0-0 8.Qd2 c5 9.d5 e6 10.Ne2N
[10.Bxg7 Kxg7 11.Bc4 Nd7 12.Ne2 Nf6 13.Nc3 exd5 14.Bxd5 Nxd5 15.Nxd5 Be6 16.Qc3+ f6 17.0-0-0 Qd6 18.g3 Bxd5 19.Rxd5 Qe6 20.f3 Rad8 21.Rhd1 Rxd5 22.Rxd5 b6 23.g4 Rf7 24.Qd3 Qc6 1-0 (56) Mamedyarov,S (2760)-Sutovsky,E (2650) Baku Presidents Cup rapid 2010 (6)]
[10.Bc4
A) 10...Bxc3 11.bxc3 b5 12.Bxb5 exd5 13.exd5 Nd7 *(13...Bb7 14.Rd1 Nd7 15.Ne2 Nb6 16.Nf4 Qd6 17.0-0 Rad8 18.Qc1 Nxd5 19.Nxd5 Bxd5 20.c4 Qb6 21.cxd5 Qxb5 22.Rfe1 Rd7 23.d6 Rfd8 24.Rd5 Rxd6 25.Rxc5 Qa4 26.Rc2 Qd4 27.h3 Kg7 28.Rc4* (30) Mohamad,A (2498)-Roiz,M (2645) (open) 110/(298) 2010*)* 14.Ne2 Nb6 15.Bc6 Rb8 16.0-0 Bb7 17.Bxb7 Rxb7 18.Nf4 Rd7 19.Rfd1 Re8 20.Qd3 ½-½ Bellmann,H (2299)-Faust,D (1919) corr ML-60 BdF 2000;
B) 10...exd5 11.Bxd5 Nc6 12.Bxg7 Kxg7 13.Bxc6 bxc6 14.0-0-0 Qf6 15.Ne2 Qxf2 16.Rdf1 Qxg2 17.Qc3+ Kg8 18.Ng3 Qh3 19.Qxc5 Rb8 20.Rf2 Be6 21.Rg1 Rb5 22.Qd4 c5 23.Qe5 Qh6+ 24.Kb1 Qe3 0-1 (37) Jacimovic,D (2402)-Atakisi,U (2347) SRB-chT 1st League CS 2023 (1.3)]
10...exd5 11.exd5 Nd7 12.Bxg7
[12.d6 seems wilder. Nf6 13.Ng3 Bg4 14.f3]
12...Kxg7 13.0-0-0 b5 0.51/19
[13...Qh4= 0.15/17 is more appropriate.]
14.Nc3 b4 15.Ne4 Nf6 16.Nxf6 -0.31/20
[16.Nxc5? loses. Bg4 17.Nb3 *(17.f3? Rc8-+)* 17...Qc7+ 18.Kb1 Bxd1 19.Qxd1 Rad8-+]
[16.f3!= 0.11/20]
16...Qxf6∓ 17.Bb5 Dodges Bd7
17...Rb8 18.Bc4 Ba6 19.Bxa6 Qxa6 20.Kb1 Rfd8 0.16/19
[20...Rfe8∓ -0.39/19]
21.Rc1 -0.29/19
[⌓21.h4! 0.16/19]
21...Qd6 22.Rhd1 Re8 23.g3 Re5 24.Qc2 -0.77/22
[24.Qf4∓ -0.35/21 Rbe8 25.Rd2]
24...Rxd5∓ 25.Rxd5 Qxd5 26.Qxc5 Endgame. KQR-KQR **26...Qe4+ 27.Qc2 Re8** -0.14/24
[27...Qf3∓ -0.82/22]
28.Qxe4= Rxe4 29.Rc2 Re1+ 30.Rc1

Re2 31.Rc2 Re1+ 32.Rc1
Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /Black=0.13 (very precise)
½-½

B35
□ **Vachier Lagrave,M 2731**
■ **Lazavik,Denis 2578**
CCT Final Survival L 2024 rapid (2.2)
[Kitty Kat]

B35: Sicilian: Accelerated Dragon with 5 Nc3: main line
Hernandez,Rom; Ibarra Padron,J: 'Inf 73/125' **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3**
[3.c3 d6 4.d4 Nf6 5.Bd3 g6 6.0-0 Bg7 7.h3 0-0 8.d5 Nb8 9.Re1 Na6 10.Bf4 Nc7 11.Bf1 b5 12.a4 bxa4 13.Rxa4 a5 14.Bh2 Bd7 15.Ra3 a4 16.Nbd2 Rb8 17.Nc4 Bb5 (18) Siegel,G (2540)-Hernandez Onna,R (2440) La Habana 73/125 1998]
3...g6 4.d4N
[4.g3 Bg7 5.Bg2 d6 6.d3 e6 7.0-0 Nge7 8.Re1 0-0 9.Bg5 h6 10.Bd2 Rb8 11.a4 a6 12.Qc1 Kh7 13.Ne2 b5 14.axb5 axb5 15.Bc3 e5 16.h3 Be6 17.g4 b4 18.Bd2 f5 1-0 (36) Winkelmann,A (2183)-Jordan,J (2145) Lueneburg distr Cup final 2006 (1) 19.gxf5 gxf5 20.exf5 Nxf5 21.Ng3 Bd7 22.Nh2 Nxg3 23.fxg3 Qb6 24.g4 Ne7 25.g5 hxg5 26.Bxg5 Ng6 27.Qd1 Nf4 28.Bxf4 Rxf4 29.Qh5+ Kg8 30.Bd5+ Kf8 31.Rf1 Be8 32.Rxf4+ exf4 33.Qf5+ Ke7 1-0 (36) Spraggett,K (2183)-Kordonowski,F (2145) 9/191 Hastings 1970 (1)]
4...cxd4 5.Nxd4 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Bc4 0-0 8.Bb3 Re8 9.0-0 d6 10.h3 Na5 The position is equal. **11.Qe2 b6 12.Rfd1 Nxb3 13.axb3 Bb7 14.Qd3 Qc8 15.Nde2 Nd7 16.Bd4 Bxd4 17.Nxd4 Qc5 18.Nf3 a6 19.Nd5 Bxd5 20.exd5 b5 21.Re1 a5 22.Re4 Nf6 23.Rd4 b4 24.Nd2 Rec8 25.Nc4 Qb5 26.Ne3 Qxd3 27.Rxd3 Rc5 28.Rd4 Rb8 29.Kf1 Rbb5 30.Rad1 h5 31.g4 hxg4 32.hxg4 Kg7 33.f4 Rb8 34.Kg2 Nd7 35.Re4 Re8 36.g5 f5! 37.gxf6+ Nxf6 38.Rc4 Rec8 39.Ra1 Kf7**
[39...Nxd5? loses. 40.Nxd5 Rxc4 41.bxc4 Rxc4 42.Ne3 *(42.Nxe7 Rc5=; 42.Rxa5 Rxc2+ 43.Kg3 e5±)* 42...Rxf4 43.Rxa5+-]
40.Kf3 R8c7 41.Ke2 Ne8 42.Kd3 e6 43.dxe6+ Kxe6 44.Re4+ Kf7 45.Nc4 d5 1.31/22
[45...Rd5+± 0.42/20 46.Rd4 Rh5]
46.Ne5+± Kf6 47.Re2 1.81/24
[47.Ng4+± 1.43/25 Kf7 48.Re2]
47...Nd6 2.37/24
[⌓47...Ng7 1.81/24 48.Rg1 Ne6 49.Nxg6 *(49.Rxg6+ Kf5=)* 49...a4]
48.Rg1+- Rg7



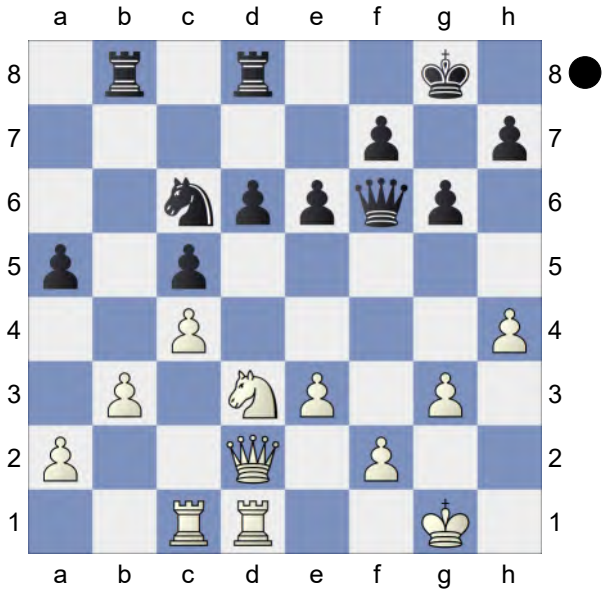
49.Rxg6+? 0.78/21 **Rxg6± 50.Nd7+ Kf5 51.Nxc5** aiming for Kd4. **51...Kxf4** Endgame. KRN-KRN **52.Ne6+ Kf5** 1.34/25 White stays focused until the

end.
[52...Kf3!± 0.57/23]
53.Nc7 Rg3+ 2.44/26
[53...Rg1± 1.26/23]
54.Kd4+- Ne4 3.44/23
[54...Kg4 2.09/23 was worth a try. 55.Nxd5 Rh3 56.Nf6+ Kg5]
55.Nxd5 Ng5 56.Re5+ Kg6 57.Nf4+ Kf7 58.Rxa5 Rg4 59.Rf5+ Ke7 60.Kd3 Nf7 61.Nd5+ Ke6 62.Rf6+ Kxd5 63.Rxf7 KR-KR **63...Rg3+ 64.Ke2** White is clearly winning. **64...Ke4 65.Re7+ Kd4 66.Kd2 Rg2+ 67.Re2 Rg3 68.Rh2 Rg4 69.c3+ Kc5 70.Rh5+ Kc6 71.Kd3 Rg3+ 72.Kc2 Rg2+ 73.Kb1 Rg3 74.Rh4**
[Worse is 74.cxb4 Rxb3 75.Rc5+ Kb6=]
74...bxc3 75.Rc4+ Kb5 76.bxc3 Rg1+ 77.Kb2 Rg2+ 78.Ka3 Rc2 79.Rb4+ Kc5 80.c4 Kd4 81.Rb8 Kc3 8.29/27
[⌓81...Kc5 4.73/24 82.b4+ Kc6]
82.Rh8 Rc1 83.Rh3+
Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.17 (very precise)
1-0

A10
□ **Carlsen,M** **2831**
■ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**
CCT Final KO 2024 rapid (1.1) 20.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

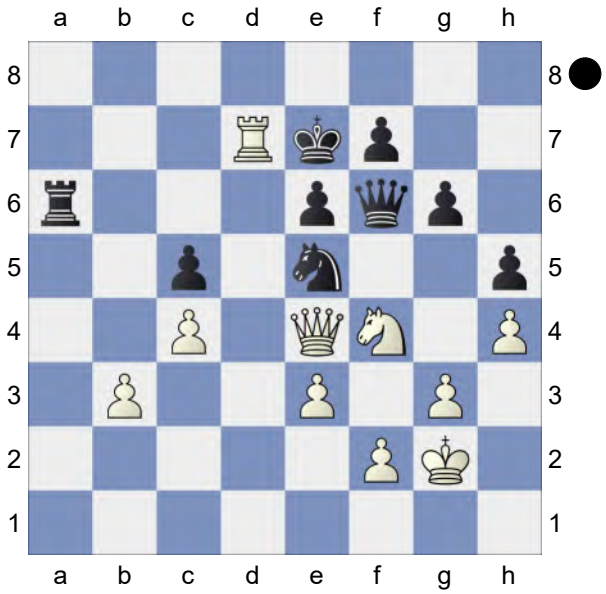
A36: Symmetrical English vs ...g6: 4 Bg2 Bg7
1.c4 g6 2.g3 c5
[2...Bg7 3.Bg2 d6 4.Nc3 e5 5.d3 f5 6.e3 Nf6 7.Nge2 0-0 8.0-0 c6 9.Rb1 Be6 10.e4 d5 11.cxd5 cxd5 12.Qb3 Qb6 13.Qxb6 axb6 14.exd5 Bf7 15.Bg5 Na6 16.f4 Ng4 17.fxe5 1-0 (33) Hinfray,R (1782)-Charoenkwan,P (1660) Bangkok Big Rook op 2023 (4)]
3.Bg2 Bg7 4.Nc3 Nf6N
[4...Nc6 5.Nf3 *(5.e3 e6 6.Nge2 Nge7 7.0-0 0-0 8.d4 cxd4 9.Nxd4 d5 10.cxd5 Nxd5 11.Nxd5 exd5 12.Ne2 d4 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.exd4 Qxd4 15.Qxd4 Bxd4 16.Rd1 Bg7 17.Be3 Bxb2 18.Rab1 Bc3 19.Bxb7 Bxb7* ½-½ (36) Shevelev,A-Vistisen,L 37/634 Vrnjacka Banja 1984 *20.Rxb7 a5 21.Rd3 Rac8 22.Bh6 Bg7 23.Bxg7 Kxg7 24.Rb5 Rc7 25.Rxa5 Rb8 26.Kg2 Rb2 27.Rf3 h5 28.Rf4 Rd7 29.h3 Rc2 30.g4 hxg4 31.hxg4 Rb7 32.Kg3 Rc3+ 33.Kg2 Rc1 34.a4 Rc8* ½-½ (36) Botvinnik,M-Stein,L USSR Ch of trade Union Teams 1966*)* 5...d6 *(5...e6 6.d4 cxd4 7.Nb5 d5 8.cxd5 exd5 9.0-0 Nge7 10.Nfxd4 0-0 11.Be3 Re8 12.Rc1 a6 13.Nc3 Nxd4 14.Bxd4 Be6 15.Bxg7 Kxg7 16.e3 Rc8 17.Qd4+ Kg8 18.Nxd5 Bxd5 19.Rxc8 Qxc8 20.Bxd5* 1-0 (40) Melkumyan,H (2640)-Areshchenko,A (2654) Warsaw Najdorf Memorial op-A 14th 2016 (7)*)* 6.0-0 f5 7.d3 Nf6 8.a3 0-0 9.Rb1 a5 10.Bg5 Ng4 11.Bd2 h6 12.Nb5 g5 13.b4 axb4 14.axb4 f4 15.bxc5 dxc5 16.h3 Nge5 17.Nxe5 Bxe5 18.g4 h5 19.Bd5+ ½-½ (35) Shchebeniuk,M (2565)-Surveyor,A (2635) Jugoslavija 23/236 1977 (10)]
5.Nh3 Nc6 6.Nf4 d6 7.b3 0-0 8.0-0 The position is equal. **8...Rb8 9.Bb2 a6 10.d3 Bd7 11.Qd2 b5 12.Ncd5 e6 13.Nxf6+ Bxf6 14.Bxf6 Qxf6 15.e3 Rfd8 16.Rac1 bxc4 17.dxc4 Ne5 18.Rfd1**
[18.Qxd6 Bc6 19.Qxc5 Bxg2 20.Kxg2 g5]

18...Bc6 19.Bxc6 Nxc6 20.Nd3 a5 21.h4



a4! 22.Rb1
[22.bxa4 Ra8]
22...axb3 23.axb3 Ra8 24.Kg2 h5 25.Qe2 Rdb8 -0.22/23
[25...Qe7∓ -0.65/20 deserves consideration.]
26.Nf4 Rd8 -0.01/20
[26...Qe7∓ -0.57/22]
27.Rd2 -0.59/20
[27.Nd3= -0.01/20]
27...Kf8 -0.12/20
[27...Ra6∓ -0.59/20]
28.Rbd1= Ke7 29.Qf3 -0.50/24
[29.Nh3= -0.01/21]
29...Ra6∓ 30.Rd5 -0.88/22 **Rd7** -0.19/25
[30...Rb6∓ -0.88/22 Threatening ... Ne5! 31.Qe2 Ne5 *(31...exd5? loses. 32.Nxd5+ Ke6 33.Nxf6+-)*]
31.Qe4= Ne5 0.11/25
[31...Qh8∓ -0.42/23]
32.Rxc5! dxc5 0.83/22
[32...Qf5= 0.01/23 33.Qxf5 gxf5]
33.Rxd7+±

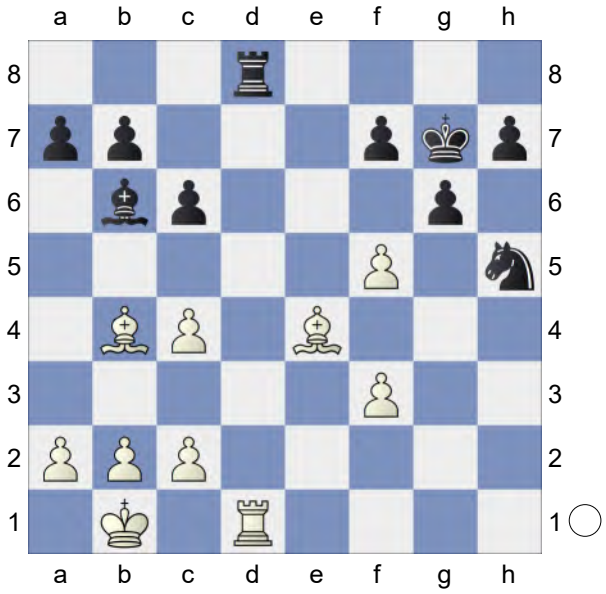
(Diagram)



Remove Defender. White stays focused until the end. **33...Kxd7** 1.50/23
[⌓33...Kf8 1.05/25 34.Rc7 Ng4]
34.Qb7+ Ke8 35.Qxa6 Endgame. KQN-KQN. White is more active.
35...Qf5? 4.11/23
[35...Qd8 2.18/24 36.Qb5+ Nd7]
36.Qc8++- Ke7 37.Qxc5+ Ke8 38.Qd4 Against Qe4+ **38...Ng4 39.e4 Qa5 40.Nh3 Qb4?** 6.01/23
[40...e5 3.47/22 41.Qd5 Qe1 42.Qa8+ Kd7 43.Qa7+ Kd8 44.Qxf7 Qxe4+ 45.Qf3 Qc2]
41.Ng5 Qe1 42.c5 Hoping for c6.
42...e5 43.Qa4+ Kf8 44.Qa2 f6 45.Qa8+ White mates. **45...Ke7 46.Qb7+ Kd8 47.Ne6+ Ke8 48.Qc8+ Ke7 49.Qd8+**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.49
1-0

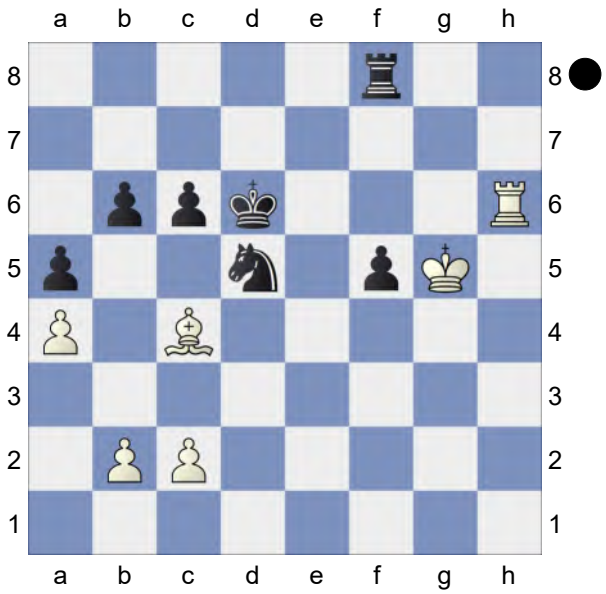
C42
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
■ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**
CCT Final KO 2024 rapid (1.1) 20.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C42: Petroff Defence: 3 Nxe5 and unusual White 3rd moves
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.Nc3 Nxc3 6.dxc3 Be7 7.Be3 Nd7 8.Qd2 0-0 9.0-0-0 Nf6 10.Bd3 The position is equal. **10...Re8 11.Rhe1 Bg4 12.c4N**
[12.Bg5 Qd7 *(12...Nh5 13.Bxe7 Rxe7 14.Rxe7 Qxe7 15.Re1 Qf6 16.Nd4 Nf4 17.f3 Nxd3+ 18.Qxd3 Bd7 19.g3 c5 20.Nb3 Bc6 21.f4 b6 22.Nd2 h6 23.Nc4 Rd8 24.Qd2 b5 25.Na5 d5 26.Nxc6 Qxc6 27.Qe2* 0-1 (38) Modestov,B (2657)-Vaisman,V (2612) 2009 (2.2)*; 12...h6 13.Bxh6 Nh5 14.h3 Bxf3 15.gxf3 c6 16.Kb1 Bh4 17.Be3 Re6 18.Rg1 d5 19.Bf5 Re5 20.Bd3 Re6 21.Rg4 Be7 22.Rdg1 Kf8 23.f4 Rh6 24.Qe2 Rh8 25.Qf3 Qd6 26.a3 Bf6 27.f5* 1-0 (40) Egner,M (2333)-Deskin,G (2267) corr USA 2021-D (USA)*)* 13.a3 Bf5 14.Nd4 Bxd3 15.Qxd3 Nd5 16.Bxe7 Nxe7 17.h4 Ng6 18.h5 Ne5 19.Qg3 h6 20.Re4 Nc6 21.Rg4 Nxd4 22.Rxg7+ Kh8 23.cxd4 Qf5 24.f3 Re2 25.Rd2 Rxd2 26.Kxd2 Re8 1-0 (57) Molina,R (2863)-Deslandes,P (2835) Banjaluka 27/551 1979]
12...g6 13.Kb1 Qd7 14.Bd4 Bxf3 15.gxf3 Nh5 16.Be4 c6 17.f4 Qg4 18.f5 Bf6 0.80/21 Inhibits fxg6.
[18...Bh4= -0.01/21 19.Qd3 Nf4]
19.f3± Qh4 20.Bf2 Qxh2 21.Rh1 Qf4
[21...Qe5? 22.c3 c5 23.Rde1+- *(23.Qxd6 Rab8+-)*]
22.Qxf4 0.31/18
[22.Qxd6 Qxd6 *(22...gxf5 23.Rdg1+ Kh8 24.Qxf4+-* Remove Defender*; 22...Rxe4 23.fxe4 Qxf2 24.e5=* Remove Defender*)* 23.Rxd6 Rad8 24.Rxd8 Rxd8=]
[⌓22.Be3 0.67/22 Qe5 23.Qc1]
22...Nxf4± 23.Rxd6 Kg7 24.Bc5 -0.16/22
[24.c3± 0.47/20]
24...Nh5 25.Rg1 Prevents Ng3.
25...Red8 26.Rxd8 Bxd8 27.Rd1 Bb6 28.Bb4 -0.41/22
[28.Be7= 0.01/20]
28...Rd8∓



29.Bc3+ Kg8 30.Bd3 Nf4 31.fxg6 -0.89/22
[31.Bf6= 0.07/21 keeps the balance. Re8 32.fxg6 fxg6 33.Be4]
31...fxg6∓ 32.c5 Bxc5 ...Nxd3 is the strong threat. **33.Bc4+ Nd5 34.Be5 Kf7 35.f4** -1.97/21
[35.a4∓ -1.45/20]
35...Ke6 -0.85/22
[35...Bd6-+ -1.97/21 White must now prevent ...Bxe5. 36.Bd4 *(36.Bxd5+?* too greedy*. cxd5 37.Bxd6 Rxd6-+)* 36...h5 *(36...Bxf4? 37.Rf1-+)*]

36.Rh1 -1.36/23
[⌓36.Re1 -0.85/22 Bd6 37.Bd4+ Kf5 38.Bd3+ Kg4 39.f5]
36...h5 37.Bd3 Bd6 38.Bxd6 Rxd6 Endgame. KRB-KRN **39.f5+**
[39.Bxg6? perishes. Nxf4 40.Bd3 Nxd3 41.cxd3 Rd5 *(41...Rxd3 42.Rxh5 Rd1+ 43.Kc2=)*]
39...gxf5 Threatens to win with ...Nf4.
40.Rxh5 Ne7 41.Kc1 Rd4 42.Kd2 Rg4 43.Rh6+ Rg6 44.Rh7 a5 45.a4 Rf6 46.Ke3 b6 47.Bc4+ Kd6 48.Kf4 Nd5+ 49.Kg5 -1.40/22
[⌓49.Bxd5 -0.73/24 Kxd5 50.Rh1]
49...Rf8 ...f4 would now be deadly.
50.Rh6+ -2.31/24
[50.Bxd5∓ -1.24/22 was the only chance. Kxd5 51.Kf4]



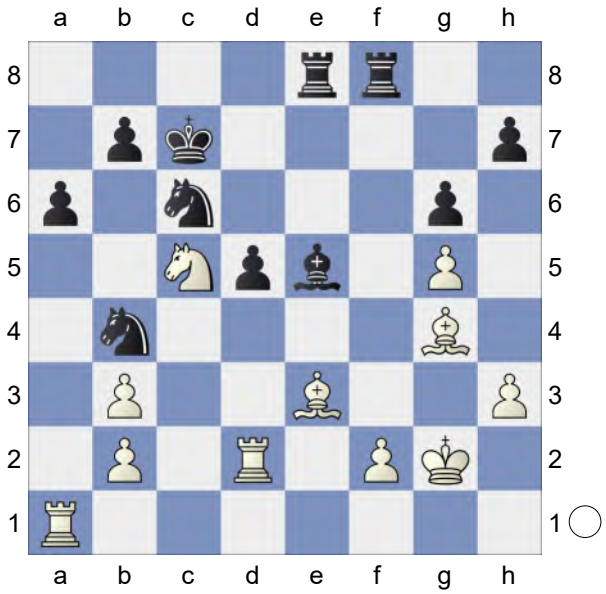
50...Kc5 -1.28/23
[Black should play 50...Ke5!-+ -2.31/24 Hoping for ...Rg8+. 51.Rh7 Rg8+ 52.Kh6 Rg4]
51.Bd3? -3.25/21 White does not recover from this.
[51.Be2∓ -1.28/23]
51...f4-+ 52.Rh2 -4.94/22
[⌓52.Kg4 -3.50/22 f3 53.Re6]
52...Kd4 53.Re2 f3 54.Re4+ Kc5 And now ...f2 would win. **55.Rc4+ Kd6 56.Re4** Black is clearly winning. **56...f2 57.Bf1** -6.78/23
[⌓57.c4 -4.69/22 Rf3 *(57...f1R? 58.Bxf1 Rxf1 59.cxd5-+; 57...f1N? 58.cxd5 Nd2 59.Re2-+; 57...f1B? 58.Bxf1 Rxf1 59.cxd5-+)* 58.cxd5 Rxd3 59.Rf4 Rxd5+ *(59...Kxd5? 60.Rxf2 Rd4 61.Rf5+ Kd6 62.Rf6+ Kc5 63.Rf1-+)* 60.Kf6]
57...Rg8+ 58.Kf5 Rg1
Weighted Error Value: White=0.27 (precise) /Black=0.14 (very precise)
0-1

B27
□ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**
■ **Carlsen,M** **2831**
CCT Final KO 2024 rapid (1.2) 20.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

B27: Sicilian: 2 Nf3, unusual Black 2nd moves
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.c3 d5 4.e5N
[4.exd5 Qxd5
A) 5.Na3 Bg7 6.d4 cxd4 7.Bc4 Qe4+ 8.Be3 Nh6 9.cxd4 0-0 10.Nb5 *(10.0-0 Bg4 11.Bxh6 Bxh6 12.Re1 Qf4 13.Rxe7 Nc6 14.Rxb7 Rab8 15.Rxb8 Rxb8 16.Be2 Bxf3 17.Bxf3 Nxd4 18.b3 Bg7 19.Rb1 Be5 20.Kf1 Qxh2 21.g3 Nf5 22.Bg2 Bxg3 23.Qf3 Bh4 24.Rd1 Re8* ½-½ (51) Herold,K-Stojanovic,V IFSB EU-OL fin-A bd6 1937 *)* 10...Nf5 11.0-0 Nxe3 12.fxe3 Qxe3+ 13.Kh1 Nc6 14.Nc7 Rb8 15.Nd5 Qh6 16.Ne5 Nxe5 17.Nxe7+ Kh8 18.dxe5 Bxe5 19.g3 Bxg3 0-1 (27) Mikaelyan,A (2504)-Vakhidov,J

(2571) Julius Baer GenCup Pl/Inrapid 2024 (6);
B) 5.d4 Bg7 6.Be2 *(6.Be3 cxd4 7.cxd4 Nf6 8.Nc3 Qa5 9.Bc4 0-0 10.h3 Nbd7 11.0-0 Nb6 12.Bb3 Nbd5 13.Bd2 Qd8 14.Re1 b6 15.Bg5 Bb7 16.Ne5 Nxc3 17.bxc3 Rc8 18.c4 Ne4 19.Bf4 e6 20.Qd3 Nd6* 1-0 (60) Kupper,P (2555)-Li,E (2560) Match/Nation POL-HUN 1949 (9)*; 6.Nbd2 cxd4 7.Bc4 Qd8 8.Nxd4* B9) Sicilian – 2.Nf3 Sideli-Sicilian – 2.Nf3 g6 #4 *)* 6...cxd4 7.cxd4 Nf6 8.Nc3 Qd8 9.0-0 0-0 10.Bg5 Nbd7 11.Re1 Nb6 12.Ne5 Be6 13.Bf3 Nbd5 14.h4 Rc8 15.h5 Nxc3 16.bxc3 Bd5 17.hxg6 hxg6 18.Qd3 Bxf3 1-0 (42) Gonzalez,Y (2487)-Vehi,V (2379) Barbera del Valles XXVII op 2004 (6)]

4...a6 5.h3 Nc6 6.d4 Bg7 7.g3 Bf5 8.Bg2 The position is equal. **8...e6** 0.54/20
[8...Qd7= 0.03/19]
9.0-0 Nge7 10.Be3 -0.12/19
[10.dxc5± 0.64/17 h6 11.Be3]
10...Qb6= 11.g4 Be4 12.Qb3 -0.72/21
[12.Nbd2= 0.00/19]
12...Qxb3∓ 13.axb3 cxd4 14.cxd4 Bxf3 15.Bxf3 f6 16.exf6 Bxf6 17.Rd1 Nb4 18.Rd2 Dodges Nc2 **18...Nec6** -0.16/22
[18...0-0∓ -0.71/20]
19.Nc3 Rf8 -0.09/20
[19...0-0∓ -0.47/20 should be considered. 20.Kg2 Bd8]
20.Kg2= Kd7 21.Na4 And now Nb6+ would win. **21...Rae8** 0.77/22
[21...Rab8= 0.01/20 remains equal.]
22.Nc5+± Kc7 23.g5! White is more active. **23...Bg7 24.Bg4 e5 25.dxe5 Bxe5**



26.Re2!
[26.Ne6+ Rxe6 27.Bxe6 d4∓]
26...d4 1.21/22
[Better is 26...Rf7!± 0.69/22]
27.Bd2 Black must now prevent Bxb4.
27...d3 1.79/22
[27...Nd5± 1.34/21 was worth a try. 28.Ne6+ Rxe6 29.Bxe6 Nf4+ 30.Bxf4 Bxf4]
28.Re4↑ White is really pushing.
28...Bxb2 29.Rae1 Rxe4 3.76/22
[29...Bd4 2.21/22 30.Bxb4 *(30.Rxe8 Rxf2+ 31.Kg3 Rxd2=; 30.Rxd4 Nxd4 31.Bxb4 Rxe1±)* 30...Nxb4 31.Rxe8 *(31.Rxd4 Rxe1 32.Rxb4 Rd8=)* 31...Bxc5 *(31...Rxf2+? 32.Kg3+-)*]
30.Rxe4 Ne6+ is the strong threat.
30...Kd6 31.Bxb4
[31.Nxb7+ Kc7 32.Bxb4 *(32.Rxb4 Nxb4 33.Bxb4 Re8+-)* 32...Nxb4 33.Rxb4 d2]
31...Nxb4 32.Nxb7+ Kd5 33.Rxb4
[33.Bf3? Rxf3 34.Kxf3 d2-+]
33...d2 34.Na5? 0.43/24
[34.f4+- 3.49/19]
34...Bd4± 35.Nc4! Rxf2+? 2.76/24
[35...Rf4± 0.48/22 36.Rb7 *(36.Nxd2 Rxf2+ 37.Kg3 Rxd2=)* 36...Kc5

(36...Rxf2+? 37.Kg3+-; 36...Rxg4+ 37.hxg4 Kc6 38.Nxd2+-) 37.Rc7+ *(37.Rxh7? Rxg4+* Remove Defender, Promotion *38.hxg4 d1Q-+; 37.Nxd2 Rxf2+ 38.Kh1 Rxd2±; 37.Bf3? Rxf3 38.Nxd2 Rxf2+ 39.Kh1 Rxd2-+)* 37...Kb4 38.Rb7+ *(38.Nxd2 Rxf2+ 39.Kg3 Rxd2±)* 38...Kc5 39.Rc7+ *(39.Rxh7? Rxg4+* Remove Defender, Promotion *40.hxg4 d1Q-+; 39.Nxd2 Rxf2+ 40.Kg3 Rxd2±; 39.Bf3? Rxf3 40.Nxd2 Rxf2+ 41.Kg3 Rxd2-+)* 39...Kb5 40.Rb7+ *(40.Rxh7? Rxg4+* Remove Defender, Promotion *41.hxg4 d1Q-+; 40.Nxd2 Rxf2+ 41.Kg3 Rxd2±)* 40...Kc5]

36.Kg3+- Rf8 37.Nxd2? 0.07/23

[White should try 37.Rb7+- 3.10/23]

37...Bf2+= 38.Kg2 aiming for Bf3+.

38...Bc5! 39.Rb7 Rf2+ 40.Kg3 Rxd2 41.Rxh7 Endgame. KRB-KRB

41...Bd6+ 42.Kf3 Rd3+ 43.Ke2 Rxb3 44.Rg7 Ke4 45.Rxg6 Rb2+ 46.Kd1 Bf4 47.Re6+

[47.Rxa6 Bxg5 48.Bc8 Bf4=]

47...Kd3 1.08/21

[47...Be5± 0.46/21]

48.Bf5+±

[48.Rxa6? Rb1#]

48...Kc3 49.g6

[49.Rxa6 Bxg5 *(49...Rd2+ 50.Ke1±)* 50.Ra5 Kd4±]

49...Bh6

[Not 49...Rd2+? 50.Ke1 Rd8 51.Re7+- *(51.Rxa6 Rf8+-)*]

50.Rxa6 Kd4 51.Re6 0.68/23

[51.Ra7± 1.11/22 Threatens to win with g7. Ke5 52.Bc2]

51...Rf2!± 52.Bg4 Re7 would now be deadly. **52...Kd5** 1.02/23

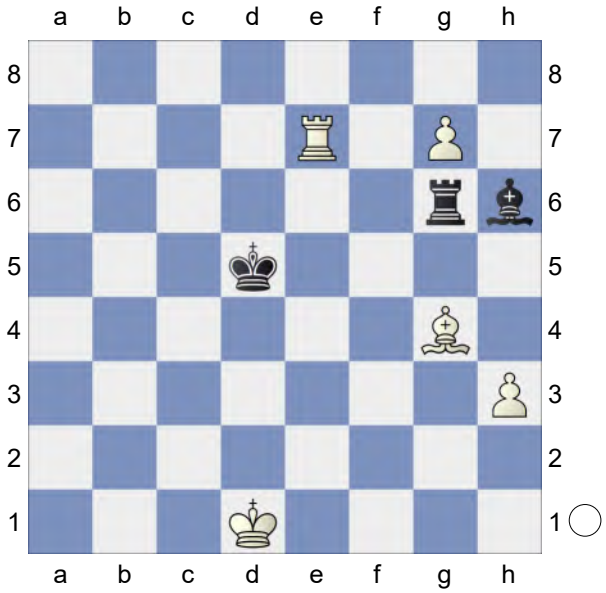
[52...Rf8± 0.61/22 is more appropriate.]

53.Re7± Rf6? 4.64/24

[53...Rf8± 1.08/21 is a better chance. 54.Rh7 Bf4]

54.g7+- White is clearly winning.

54...Rg6



55.Re6! Decoy, Promotion **55...Rxg4**

[55...Rxg7 56.Rxh6]

56.hxg4 Bxg7 57.Re8

Weighted Error Value: White=0.28 (precise) /Black=0.42

1-0

B48

□ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**

■ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**

CCT Final KO 2024 rapid (1.2) 20.12.24

[Kitty Kat]

B48: Sicilian: Taimanov: 5 Nc3 Qc7 6 Be3 a6 without Be2

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3

[5.g3 Qb6 6.Nb3 Nf6 7.Bg2 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Nc3 a6 10.Be3 Qc7 11.a4 Ne5 12.Bf4 d6 13.a5 Bd7 B 44/01 2001]

5...Qc7 6.Be3N

[6.g3 a6 7.Bg2 Nf6 8.0-0 Be7

9.Nce2 0-0 10.c4 Nxd4 11.Qxd4 d6 12.b3 Bd7 13.Bb2 Bc6 14.Rac1 b6 15.Nc3 Qb7 16.Rfe1 Rfd8 17.Qe3 Re8 18.Qd2 b5 19.Nd5 exd5 20.cxd5 Bd7 ½-½ (37) Damjanovic,M-Langeweg,K 1/269 Beverwijk 1966 21.e5 Ng4 22.h3 Nh6 23.e6 Bc8 24.g4 Qb8 25.g5 Nf5 26.Be4 fxe6 27.Bxf5 e5 28.Qd3 Bxf5 29.Qxf5 Qd8 30.h4 Rf8 31.Qe6+ Kh8 32.Re4 Qb6 33.Rc2 Rae8 34.Rxe5 Qd8 35.Rf5 Rg8 ½-½ (37) Damjanovic,M-Browne,W 8/457 San Juan 1969]

6...a6 7.a3 b5 8.Nxc6 Qxc6 9.Qd4 Qd6 10.0-0-0 Qxd4 White is slightly better. **11.Bxd4 Bb7 12.f3 Ne7 13.a4 b4 14.Na2 Nc6 15.Bf2 Be7 16.Kb1 d6 17.Nc1 0-0 18.Nb3 Rfc8 19.Bg3 Bf8** 1.57/23

[Black should play 19...h5± 0.66/20]

20.Be2±

[20.Bxd6 Rd8 21.e5 Nxe5 22.Bxa6 Rxa6= *(22...Bxd6 23.Bxb7 Rxa4 24.f4±)*]

20...e5 21.Rd2 a5 22.Bf2 Ba6 2.31/22

[⌓22...Be7 1.84/20 23.Rhd1 h5]

23.Bxa6+- Rxa6 24.Rhd1 f6 25.Rd5 Kf7 26.Rb5 Ke6 27.Rdd5 Rca8 28.Rb6 Be7 29.Rb7 f5 30.Nd2 1.27/21

[30.Rdb5+- 1.70/20]

30...fxe4 31.fxe4 Rc8 32.Be3 White is much more active. **32...Nd8** 2.16/21

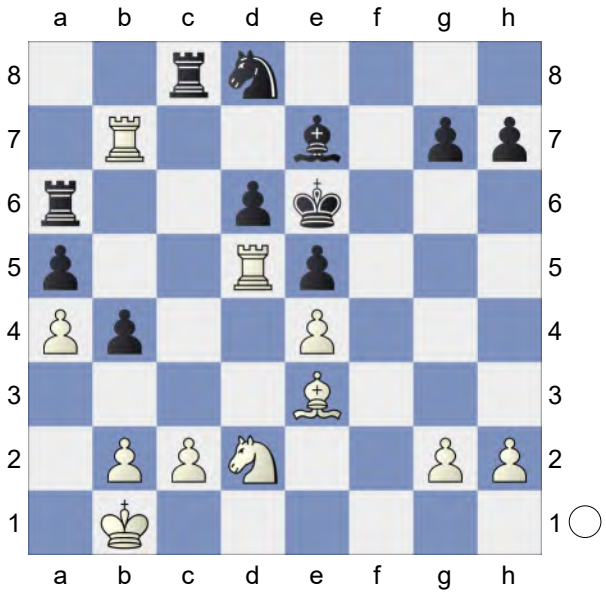
[32...h5± 1.50/19 33.Rdb5 g6]

(Diagram)

33.Rb6! Raa8 34.b3 Nf7 3.18/21

[34...Nc6 2.19/22 might work better. 35.Nc4 Rc7]

35.Nc4 Bd8 36.Rb7 Bc7? 3.72/21

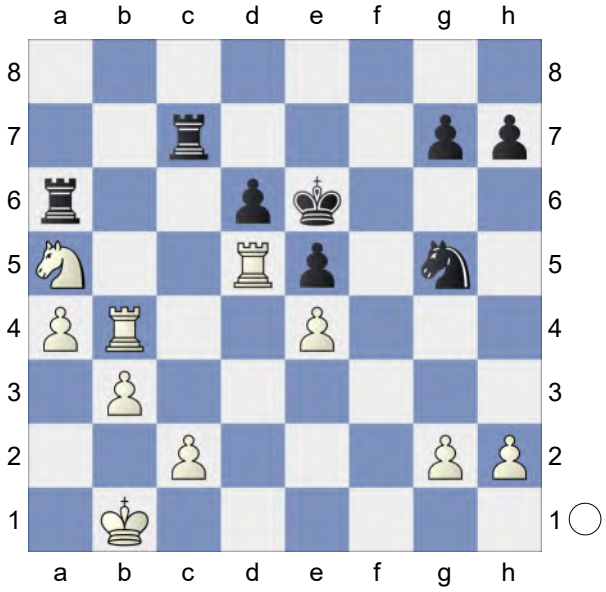


[36...Ra6 2.13/20 is a better defense. 37.Rdb5 Rac6]

37.Rbb5 Nd8 38.Bb6 Ra6 39.Bxc7

[39.Rxa5? Rxb6 40.Nxb6 Bxb6∓]

39...Rxc7 40.Nxa5 Nf7 41.Rxb4 Ng5



And now ...Nxe4! would win. **42.Rdb5** h4 would now be deadly. **42...Rc5?** 5.44/23

[42...Rca7 2.88/17 was called for.]

43.Nb7 Rc7 44.h4 Nf7 45.Na5 g5 46.h5

[Not 46.Nc4 gxh4 47.a5 Raa7+-]

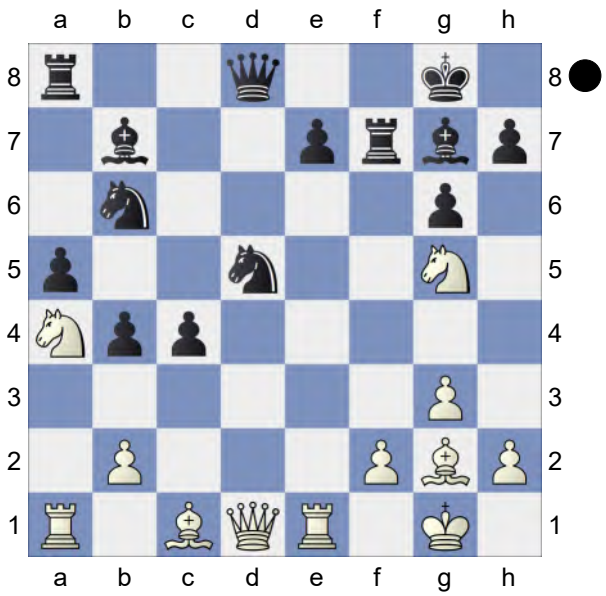
46...g4 47.Nc4 Ng5 48.Rb7 Rxb7

49.Rxb7 White is clearly winning. **49...Nxe4 50.Rxh7** Endgame. KRN-KRN **50...Kf5 51.h6 d5 52.Ne3+ Ke6** 7.41/19
[⌓52...Kf4 4.81/17 53.Nxd5+ Kg3]
53.Rg7 Ra8 Repels h7 **54.Nxg4 d4 55.h7 Rh8 56.a5 Nd6 57.a6 Nf5 58.Rb7 Nd6 59.Rg7 Nf5 60.Rg6+ Ke7 61.a7 e4 62.Rg8**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) /Black=0.37
1-0

D78
□ **Carlsen,M** **2831**
■ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**
CCT Final KO 2024 rapid (1.3) 20.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

D78: Fianchetto Grünfeld: 6 0-0 c6
Ivkov,B: 'Inf 4/754' **1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 c6 4.Bg2 d5 5.Nf3**
[5.Qa4 Bg7 6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.Nf3 0-0 8.0-0 Nb6 9.Qc2 Bf5 10.e4 Bg4 11.Ne5 Be6 12.Rd1 N8d7 13.Nf3 Bg4 14.Nc3 e5 15.dxe5 Bxf3 16.Bxf3 Qe7 17.Bg2 Nxe5 18.h3 Rad8 19.Bf4 g5 1-0 (55) Mamedyarov,S (2738)-Arat,U (2389) Titled Tuesday intern op 16th May Early blitz 2023 (1)]
5...Bg7 6.0-0 0-0 7.Re1N -0.22/17
[7.cxd5 0.25/19 feels stronger. Nxd5 8.e4]
[7.b3 a5 8.Nc3 Ne4 9.Bb2 Nxc3 10.Bxc3
A) 10...b5 11.Rc1 *(11.cxd5 cxd5 12.Rc1 b4 13.Bd2 Bb7 14.Bf4 Nc6 15.Qd2* 7. ...g6 and ...d5: Grünfeld-#053 Main line 6...c6 slow li *)* 11...Nd7 12.cxd5 cxd5 13.Bd2 Bb7 14.Bf4 Qb6 15.Rc7 Bc6 16.Qc2 Rfc8 17.Rc1 Rxc7 18.Bxc7 Qxc7 19.Qxc6 Qxc6 20.Rxc6 Ra7 21.e3 b4 22.Bf1 Bf6 23.Bb5 Kg7 24.Rc8 Nf8 25.Ne1 ; -; (43) 3.e5 ♗f5 4.♘e2 e6 (2580)-8. ♘e2 ♘c6 9.0-0 b6_79013 (2670) 32/119 Esbjerg 32/119 1981;
B) 10...Nd7 11.Rc1 *(11.e3 Nf6 12.Ne5 Ne4 13.Be1 Qd6 14.f3 Nf6 15.Rc1 c5 16.g4* 7. ...g6 and ...d5: Grünfeld-#055 Main line 6...c6 slow li *)* 11...e6 12.Qc2 b5 13.cxb5 cxb5 14.Bd2 b4 15.Bf4 Qb6 16.Bc7 Qb5 17.Qd2 Ba6 18.Rc2 Rfc8 19.Rfc1 Bf8 20.Qf4 h6 21.h4 Bg7 ½-½ (40) Ivkov,B-Kavalek,L (izt) 4/754 Sousse 1967]
7...dxc4= 8.e4 b5 0.13/22
[8...Na6∓ -0.31/19]
9.a4 The position is equal. **9...a5 10.axb5 cxb5 11.Nc3 Bb7 12.d5** -0.40/19
[12.e5= 0.11/20 Nd5 13.Nxb5]
12...b4∓ 13.Na4 Nbd7 14.e5 -0.69/21
[14.Bf4= -0.27/18 is more appropriate.]
14...Nxd5 15.e6 N7b6 0.45/23
[Black should play 15...fxe6∓ -0.36/16 16.Ng5 Ne5 17.Nxe6 *(17.Nc5 Qb6∓)* 17...Qd6]
16.exf7+ -0.03/19
[16.Nc5!± 0.45/23 might be stronger. Bc8 17.Ng5 *(17.exf7+ Rxf7 18.Ne5 Bxe5±)*]
16...Rxf7= ...Nxa4 would now be deadly.
17.Ng5 -0.82/20
[17.Nc5!± 0.41/19 keeps the upper hand. Qb8 18.Nxb7]

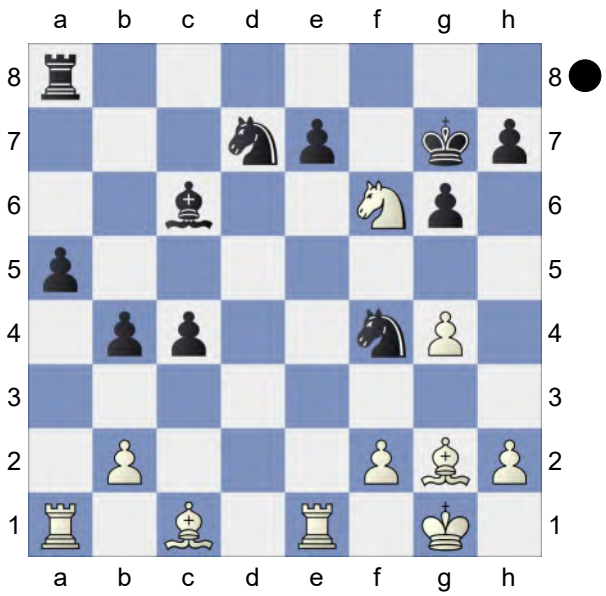
(Diagram)



17...Rf5 0.00/24
[Better is 17...Nxa4!∓ -0.82/20 18.Nxf7 Kxf7 19.Rxa4 Qd6]
18.g4 -1.00/24
[18.Ne6= 0.00/24 Qd6 19.Nxg7 Kxg7 20.g4]
18...Rf6 -0.01/19
[18...Rxg5!∓ -1.00/24 19.Bxg5 Nxa4 Remove Defender 20.Qxa4 Nb6 *(20...Bxb2?* loses. *21.Qb5+-)*]
19.Nc5 Bc6 20.Nce6 Prevents Nc7.
20...Qd7 21.Nxg7 Kxg7 22.Ne4 -0.87/18 Dodges Rd6
[22.Qd4= -0.05/17]
22...Nf4? 1.05/18
[22...Re6∓ -0.87/18 and life is bright. Strongly threatening ...Nf6. 23.b3 Kg8]
23.Qxd7± Nxd7 Excellent horsemanship. **24.Nxf6**

(Diagram)

Discovered Attack **24...Nxg2 25.Re6** Threatens to win with Nxd7. White is more active.
[25.Rxe7+? is the wrong capture. Kxf6 26.Rxd7 Bxd7-+]

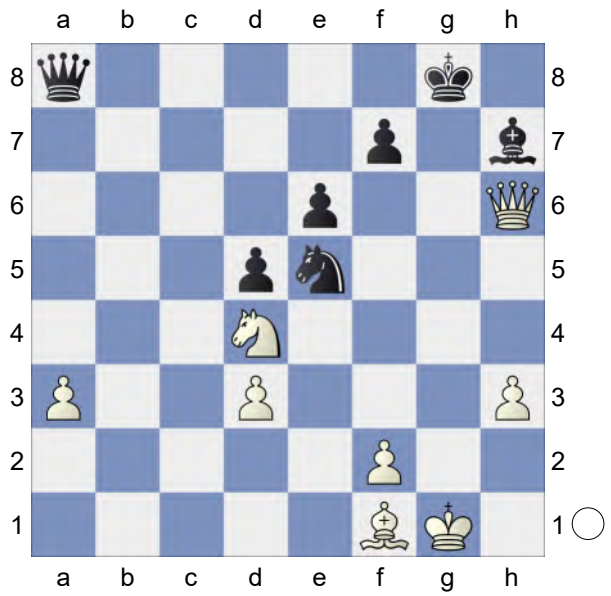


25...Nxf6 2.38/20 Black cannot hold the game after this.
[25...Nb8± 1.15/19 26.Ne4 *(26.Rxe7+?* too greedy. *Kxf6 27.Rc7 Ne1-+)* 26...Kf7 27.Rxc6 Nxc6 28.Kxg2 a4]
26.Rxc6+- Ne1 27.Rxc4 Nd3 28.g5 aiming for Rd4. **28...Nd7?** 3.49/21
[28...Ne8 1.89/19 29.Bf4 a4]
29.Rc7 N7e5 30.Rxe7+ Kg8 31.Be3 a4 32.Kg2 a3 33.bxa3 b3 4.09/21
[33...bxa3 2.82/19 is a better defense. 34.Rb7 a2]
34.Bd4 Nf4+ 35.Kf1 Nf3 36.Bf6 Nxh2+? 4.60/32
[36...Nd2+ 2.87/18 37.Kg1 Rc8]
37.Kg1 Nf3+ 38.Kh1 Nd3 White is clearly winning. **39.Re3 Nfe1 40.Raxe1 Nxe1 41.Rxe1 Rxa3 42.Re8+ Kf7 43.Re7+ Kf8 44.Rxh7** Black must now prevent Be7+. **44...Ra2 45.Kg2**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.28 (precise) /Black=0.47
1-0

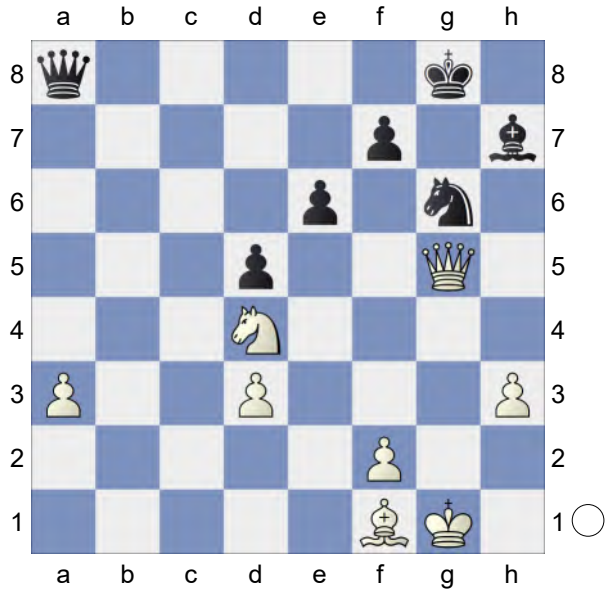
A06
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
■ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**
CCT Final KO 2024 rapid (1.3) 20.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

A07: Réti Opening: New York and Capablanca Systems

1.Nf3 d5 2.b3 Bf5 3.Bb2 e6 4.g3 Nf6 5.Bg2 h6 6.0-0 Be7 7.d3 0-0 8.Nbd2 a5 9.a3 Bh7 10.Re1 c6 11.e4 Re8
[11...Na6 12.Qe2 b5 13.Rad1 Qb6 14.Bh3 dxe4 15.Nxe4 Nxe4 16.dxe4 Rad8 17.Ne5 Bf6 18.Bg2 Nb8 19.c4 b4 20.axb4 axb4 21.Nd3 Bxb2 22.Nxb2 c5 23.Qe3 Qc7 24.Bf3 Qe7 25.Na4 Na6 26.h4 1-0 (52) Gallardo Garcia,A (2724)-Syanayev,B (2725) San Salvador op 1st 2002 (8.3)]
12.Qe2 Bf8N
[12...Na6 13.Ne5 *(13.Rad1 Nc5 14.Ne5 Nfd7 15.Ng4 Bf8 16.h4 f5 17.Ne5 Nxe5 18.Bxe5 Nd7 19.Bb2 f4 20.e5 a4 21.b4 c5 22.bxc5 Bxc5 23.d4 Qb6 24.Nc4 dxc4 25.dxc5 Qxb2 26.Rxd7 fxg3 27.Qg4 gxf2+* 1-0 (41) Bacrot,E (2667)-Weishaeutel,M (2438) Titled Tuesday intern op 09th May Early blitz 2023 (8)) 13...Nd7 14.Ng4 Nf6 15.Ne3 d4 16.Nef1 c5 17.f4 Chess Informant Eco Chess Informant ECO A4 2000]
13.h3 Qc7 14.e5 -0.61/18
[14.Be5= -0.02/16 Qb6 15.Bb2]
14...Nfd7∓ 15.g4 c5 16.g5 a4 17.gxh6 gxh6 18.Nh2 -0.84/18
[18.c4∓ -0.36/18]
18...Nc6∓ 19.Ng4 Nd4 20.Bxd4 -1.64/19
[20.Qd1∓ -1.13/21]
20...cxd4-+ 21.Nf3 axb3 22.cxb3 Qc3 -0.92/21
[22...Rxa3 23.Nxh6+ *(23.Nxd4? Rxa1 24.Rxa1 h5-+)* 23...Kg7 24.Rxa3 Bxa3 25.Nxf7 Kxf7 26.Ng5+ *(26.Nxd4? Qc3-+)* 26...Kg7 27.Qg4=]
[⌓22...h5 -1.38/20 23.Nf6+ Nxf6 24.exf6 Qf4]
23.Bf1∓ Rec8
[23...Bxa3 24.Nxh6+ Kg7 25.Nxf7 Kxf7 26.Ng5+ Kg7 27.Nxh7 Kxh7 28.Qh5+ Kg8 29.Qg4+ *(29.Qg6+ Kf8=)* 29...Kf7 30.Qh5+ Kg8 31.Qg6+ Kh8 32.Rxa3 Qxe1 33.Qh6+ Kg8 34.Qg6+ Kf8 35.Qh6+ Kf7 36.Qh7+ Kf8 37.Qh8+ Kf7 38.Qh7+ Kf8 39.Qh8+ Kf7 40.Qh7+=]
24.Rec1 Qxb3 0.00/22
[24...Qxc1 25.Rxc1 Rxc1 26.Qd2∓]
[24...Qa5!∓ -0.42/22]
25.Rab1 Qa4 26.Rxc8 Rxc8 27.Rxb7 Bg7 0.31/18
[27...Bxa3? 28.Rxd7 *(28.Nxh6+ Kg7=)* 28...Kg7 29.Nf6+-]
[27...Bf5= -0.12/22]
28.Qd2↑ Black is under pressure.
28...Qc6 29.Ra7 -0.01/21
[29.Nxh6+? Bxh6 30.Qb4 Kh8-+]
[29.Rxd7!± 0.39/25 feels stronger. Qxd7 30.Nf6+ Bxf6 31.exf6]
29...Ra8? 3.24/20
[29...h5!= -0.01/21 and Black has nothing to worry. 30.Nh6+ *(30.Nxd4 Qb6∓)* 30...Bxh6 31.Qxh6 Qc1 32.Qxc1 *(32.Qxh5 Bxd3 33.Qg4+ Kf8=)* 32...Rxc1]
30.Nxd4+-
[Weaker is 30.Nxh6+ Bxh6 31.Rxa8+ Qxa8+-]
30...Qc8 31.Nxh6+ Bxh6 32.Rxa8 Qxa8 33.Qxh6 Strongly threatening Nxe6! **33...Nxe5**



34.Qg5+! Ng6



35.h4! Qa4 36.Nf3 Qf4 37.Qxf4 Nxf4 Endgame. KBN-KBN **38.a4 Nxd3?** 3.72/23

[38...Bxd3± 1.39/21 was necessary. 39.Nd4 Bxf1 40.Kxf1 Nd3]

39.a5 And now a6 would win. **39...Nc5 40.a6** a7 would now be deadly. **40...Nxa6 41.Bxa6 Kg7 42.Kh2 f6 43.Bb7 Kf7 44.Kg3 Ke7 45.h5 Kd6 46.h6 Ke7 47.Nh4 d4 48.f4 Kf7 49.Bf3 Bc2 50.Bg4** 2.22/20

[⌓50.Be2 5.22/25]

50...e5 51.f5? 0.03/34

[51.Bc8+- 2.41/27]

51...Kg8!= The position is equal. **52.Nf3 Kh7 53.Ne1 Be4 54.Kh4 Kxh6 55.Nf3 Bc2 56.Kg3 Be4**

[56...Kh7 57.Nd2=]

57.Nd2 Bc2 58.Nf3 Be4 59.Nd2 Bc2 60.Nf3 What a bad dream for Black. Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.50

½-½

	C88
□ **Vachier Lagrave,M**	**2731**
■ **Carlsen,M**	**2831**
CCT Final KO 2024 rapid (1.4)	20.12.24

[Kitty Kat]

C88: Closed Ruy Lopez: Anti-Marshall Systems

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1

[6.d3 b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.a3 0-0 9.Nc3 Na5 10.Ba2 Be6 11.Bxe6 fxe6 12.b4 Nc6 13.Bd2 *(13.Qe1 Qd7 14.Ne2 a5 15.Bd2 axb4 16.axb4 d5 17.Ng3 Rxa1 18.Qxa1 Bxb4 19.Nxe5 Qd6 20.Bf4 g5 21.Nh5 Nxh5 22.Nf7 Kxf7 23.Bxd6 Bxd6 24.Qc3 Nb8 25.e5 b4 26.Qa1 Be7 27.Qa7 Nf4* 0-1 (42) Abdusattorov,N (2688)-Harikrishna,P (2720) Olympiad-44 Chennai 2022 (6.1)*)* 13...d5 14.Re1 Qd6 15.Qe2 Nd7 16.Na2 Nb6 17.Nc1 Rf7 18.Nb3 Raf8 19.Rf1 Qd7 20.Rae1 Bd6 ½-½ (44) Yu,Y (2764)-Ding,L (2816) 2nd Du Te Cup 2018 (3.2)]

6...b5 7.Bb3 0-0N

[7...d6 8.d4 Nxd4 9.Nxd4 exd4 10.c3 dxc3 11.Nxc3 0-0 12.a4 Bb7 13.axb5 axb5 14.Rxa8 Bxa8 15.Bg5

b4 A8) RL – 8th Move Alternati-8th Move Alternatives – 8.]

8.a4 Rb8 9.axb5 axb5 10.h3 d6 11.c3 b4 12.d3 bxc3 13.bxc3 h6 White is slightly better. **14.Nbd2 Bd7 15.Nf1 Ra8 16.Rb1 Re8 17.g4** -0.22/21

[⌓17.Ne3 0.30/22]

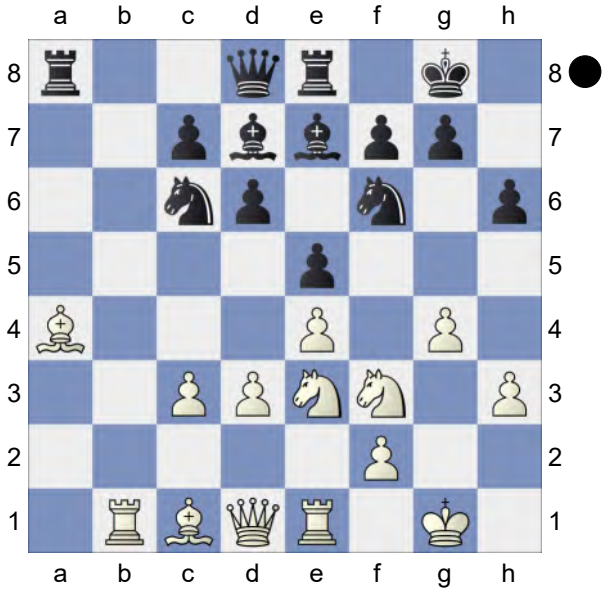
17...Be6 0.54/19

[17...Nh7= -0.22/21]

18.Ba4 -0.12/19

[18.Bxe6± 0.54/19 fxe6 19.g5]

18...Bd7= Hoping for ...Rxa4! **19.Ne3**



Nd4! 20.Bxd7

[20.cxd4 Bxa4]

20...Nxf3+ 21.Qxf3 Nxd7 22.Nf5 -0.82/20

[22.d4∓ -0.43/21]

22...Bg5∓ 23.Bxg5 hxg5 24.Kg2 -1.29/21

[White should play 24.d4 -0.90/20]

24...g6 -0.46/19

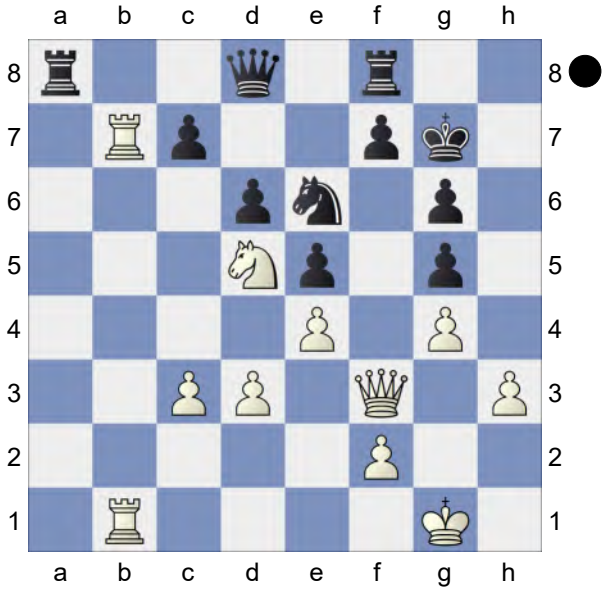
[Better is 24...Ra3∓ -1.29/21 25.Rec1 Nc5]

25.Ne3!∓

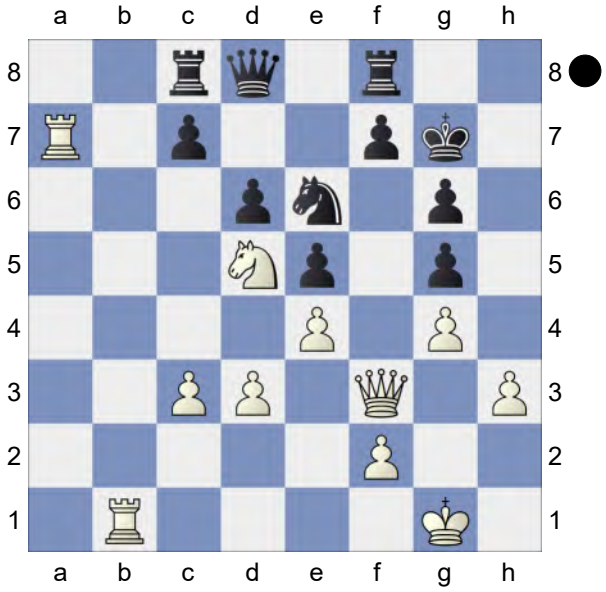
[Not 25.Nh6+? Kg7 26.Nxf7 *(26.Qxf7+? too greedy. Kxh6 27.d4 Ra3-+)* 26...Qe7 27.Nxg5 Qxg5-+]

25...Nf8 26.Nd5 Kg7 27.Rb7 Ne6 ...Rf8 would now be deadly. **28.Reb1 Rf8** Strongly threatening ...c6. **29.Kg1** -1.35/20

[29.Kh2!= -0.25/21 remains equal.]



29...Rc8!∓ 30.Ra7



f6 -0.14/25

[30...c6!∓ -1.58/20 31.Ne3 Rb8]

31.Rbb7 Rf7 32.Qd1 Nc5 33.Rb1 Rb8 34.Kh2 c6 35.Rxf7+

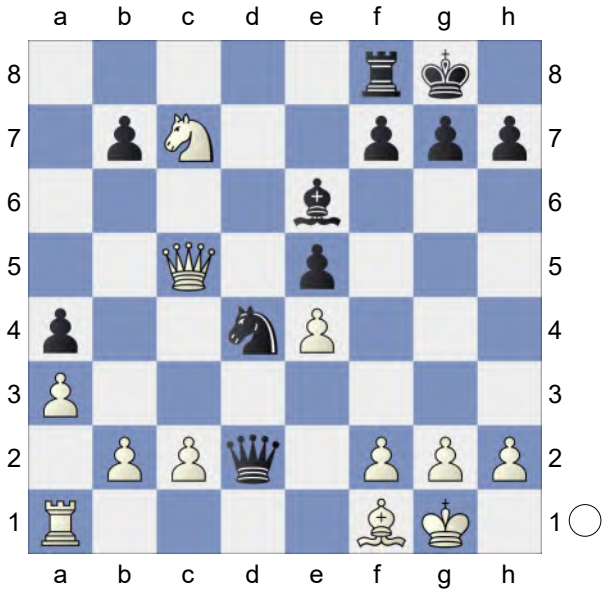
[35.Rxb8 simplifies Qxb8 36.Rxf7+ Kxf7 37.Nb4]

35...Kxf7 36.Ne3 Rxb1 37.Qxb1= Endgame. KQN-KQN **37...Qc7 38.Kg3 Kg7 39.h4** -0.48/25
[39.Kg2= -0.03/20 feels stronger.]
39...gxh4+∓ 40.Kxh4 Ne6
[40...d5!?]
41.Ng2 The position is equal. **41...d5 42.Kg3 dxe4 43.dxe4 Qd7 44.f3**
[44.Qb4 simplifies c5 45.Qb1 Nf4 46.Nxf4 exf4+ 47.Kxf4 Qd2+ 48.Kg3]
44...Qd2 45.Qb7+ Kh6 ...Nf4 is the strong threat. **46.Qc8 Nd8 47.Qc7** aiming for Qe7. **47...Ne6 48.Qc8 Nd8 49.c4 Kg7 50.Qc7+ Kf8 51.Nh4 Qe1+ 52.Kg2 Qe2+ 53.Kg3 Qe1+ 54.Kg2 Qe2+**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /Black=0.13 (very precise)
½-½

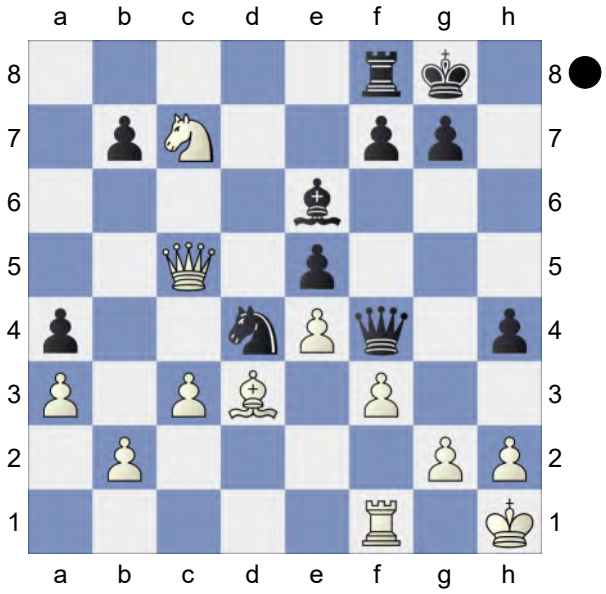
B92

□ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**
■ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
CCT Final KO 2024 rapid (1.4) 20.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

B92: Sicilian Najdorf: 6 Be2
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 e5
[6...e6 7.0-0 Qc7 8.a4 Nc6 9.Kh1 Be7 10.f4 0-0 11.Be3 Re8 12.Bf3 Na5 13.Nde2 Rb8 14.Qe1 Nc4 15.Bc1 b5 16.axb5 axb5 17.b3 b4 18.e5 dxe5 19.bxc4 bxc3 20.fxe5 Nd7 21.Nd4 ½-½ (31) Sengupta,D (2496)-Spirin,O (2449) Metz op 28th 2010 (5)]
7.Nb3 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Qd3N
[9.Kh1 Nc6 10.f4 a5 11.a4 Nb4 12.Be3 Be6 13.Bb5 Qc7 14.Nd2 Rfd8 15.f5 Bd7 16.Rc1 d5 17.exd5 Nbxd5 18.Nxd5 Nxd5 19.Qe2 Bc6 20.c3 h6 21.Ne4 Nf6 22.Nxf6+ Bxf6 23.Rcd1 Rxd1 0-1 (36) Schliemann Gambit (2500)-5..g6 6. Nf3?! (2465) 108: Simultaneous Display 2001 (8) 24.Rxd1 Rd8 25.Rxd8+ Bxd8 26.h3 Bd7 27.Bxd7 Qxd7 28.Qd2 Qe8 29.Qd5 Bf6 30.b3 Qc8 31.Qd3 e4 32.Qxe4 Qxc3 33.Qe8+ Kh7 34.Bb6 Qa1+ 35.Kh2 Be5+ 36.g3 0-1 Khusnutdinova,L (2500)-Pantaleon,S (2465) 108: Simultaneous Display 2001 (8)]
9...Be6 10.Rd1 a5 11.Be3
[11.Qg3 feels hotter. Nc6 12.Bh6 Ne8 13.Be3]
11...Nc6 12.a3 White is slightly better. **12...Nd7 13.Nd5 a4 14.Nd2** White is more active. **14...Bg5 15.Bxg5 Qxg5 16.Nc7** Black must now prevent Nf3! **16...Nc5** 1.38/23
[⌓16...Rad8 0.76/26]
17.Qxd6± Rad8 1.94/28
[17...Rac8± 1.45/21 was worth a try.]
18.Qxc5+- Rxd2 19.Rxd2 Qxd2 20.Bf1 1.16/23
[20.Bd3+- 1.87/24]
20...Nd4±



21.Bd3
[21.Qxe5 Nxc2 22.Rb1 *(22.Nxe6? fxe6 23.Qxe6+ Kh8-+)* 22...Ba2∓]
21...Qg5 1.73/22
[21...Bb3± 1.09/22 was called for.]
22.Kh1 1.35/22
[Better is 22.Nd5+- 1.73/22]
22...h5 1.80/22
[22...Qf6± 1.35/22 23.Nxe6 Nxe6]
23.Rf1 1.40/18
[23.Nd5+- 1.80/22]
23...Qf4 24.f3 0.13/22
[24.Nd5± 1.24/20 Bxd5 25.exd5]
24...h4!= 25.c3? -1.49/23
[25.Nd5= 0.21/21 Bxd5 26.exd5]



25...h3 -1.09/22
[⌓25...Qd2! -1.49/23 ...h3! is the strong threat. 26.Rg1 *(26.cxd4? h3-+)* 26...h3 *(26...Qxd3 27.cxd4 exd4 28.Nxe6=)*]
26.cxd4?? -3.80/19
[26.Nxe6∓ -1.09/22 hxg2+ *(26...Nxe6? 27.Qf2-+)* 27.Kxg2 Nxe6 *(27...fxe6 28.cxd4 Qd2+ 29.Rf2±)* 28.Qf2]
26...Qd2!-+ 27.gxh3 Qxd3 28.Rf2 Bxh3
[28...exd4 29.Kg2=]
29.Qc2 Prevents Qd1+ **29...Qxd4** -0.19/21
[Black should play 29...Qe3-+ -3.47/25 (-> ...Qe1+) 30.Qd2 Qxd2 *(30...exd4 31.Nd5∓; 30...Qxd4 31.Qxd4 exd4 32.Nd5±)* 31.Rxd2 Rc8]
30.Nd5= b6 0.05/20
[30...Kh7∓ -0.40/20]
31.Rd2↑ White fights for an advantage.
31...Qc5 32.Qxc5 bxc5 Endgame. KRB-KRN **33.Kg1 Be6 34.Nc3 Ra8 35.Kf2 g6 36.Rd6 Kg7 37.Rc6 Rb8** 1.09/26
[37...Ra5= 0.28/21 remains equal.]
38.Nxa4± Bd7 2.11/28
[38...c4± 1.25/23 39.Kg3 Bd7 40.Rxc4 *(40.Rb6 c3±)* 40...Bxa4 Remove Defender]
39.Rb6!+- Rc8 40.Nc3 Rh8 41.Kg3 Be6 42.a4 Rd8 43.a5 a6 would now be deadly. **43...Ra8** 4.30/23
[⌓43...Bc4 2.89/19 44.b3 Bd3]
44.Rb5 White is clearly winning.
44...Rc8 45.a6 Bc4 46.Ra5 f5 7.01/20
[⌓46...Bxa6 4.80/19 47.Rxa6 c4]
47.a7
Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.39
1-0

B22
□ **Carlsen,M** **2831**
■ **Vachier Lagrave,M** **2731**
CCT Final KO 2024 rapid (1.5) 20.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

B22: Sicilian: 2 c3
1.e4 c5 2.c3 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.Be2 e6 7.0-0 Be7 8.c4 Qd8 9.dxc5 0-0N

[9...Qxd1 10.Rxd1 Ne4 *(10...Bxc5 11.Nc3 0-0 12.Bg5 h6 13.Bxf6 gxf6 14.Ne4 Be7 15.c5 f5 16.Nd6 Rd8 17.Bb5 Bf6 18.Rd2 Rb8 19.Rad1 Kf8 20.a3 Ne5 21.Nxe5 Bxe5 22.Nxc8 Rxd2 23.Rxd2 Rxc8 24.b4 Rc7 25.Kf1* 0-1 (55) Pytel,K (1892)-Ortiz Menacho,S (2150) William Nash's tourney 1885 (9)*)* 11.Be3 Bxc5 12.Nd4 Nxd4 *(12...Bd7 13.Bf3 Bxd4 14.Bxd4 Nxd4 15.Rxd4 Nf6 16.Nc3 0-0-0 17.Rad1 Bc6 18.Bxc6 bxc6 19.Rxd8+ Rxd8 20.Rxd8+ Kxd8 21.f3 Nd7 22.Kf2 f5 23.Ke3 Ke7 24.b4 e5 25.a4 Kd6 26.Kd3 Nf6 27.c5+* 1-0 (46) Wittram,T (2540)-Under the Radar,J (2550) JUG-chW51 Belgrade 1998*)* 13.Bxd4 Bd7 14.Bf3 0-0-0 15.Bxe4 Bc6 16.Bd5 Bxd4 17.Rxd4 exd5 18.c5 B 22/32 2000]

10.Nc3 Bxc5 11.a3 a5 12.Na4 Ba7 13.Bf4 Bd7 14.Nc3 The position is equal. **14...Bb8 15.Qc1 Bxf4 16.Qxf4 Qb8 17.Qe3 a4 18.Rad1 Ne7 19.Bd3 Bc6 20.Ne5** Against Ng4 **20...Ra5 21.Rfe1 h6 22.Bc2 Nf5 23.Qe2 Qa7 24.Bxf5**

[24.Qd2 is interesting. Ra8 25.h3 Qb8 26.f4]

24...exf5 25.Nxc6 bxc6 26.h3 Qc5 27.Qe7 Qxc4? 4.98/25

[27...Qxe7= 0.24/21 and Black is okay. 28.Rxe7 Rb8]

28.Rd8? 1.21/18

[28.Qxf8+!+- 4.98/25 Kh7 29.Re7]

28...Nh7± 29.Red1 0.50/22 White is much more active. The black rooks are passive.

[29.Rxf8+± 1.05/21 Nxf8 30.Qd8]

29...Qe6± 30.Qxe6

[30.Qb4 seems wilder. Qe5 31.Nxa4 Rb5 32.Qc4]

30...fxe6 31.R8d6 Rb8 32.R1d2 e5 33.Rxc6 Nf6 34.Rc4 Rba8 35.f3 R8a7 36.Kf2 Kh7 37.Rd6 e4 1.33/20 **38.fxe4** 0.48/19

[38.Rdd4!± 1.33/20]

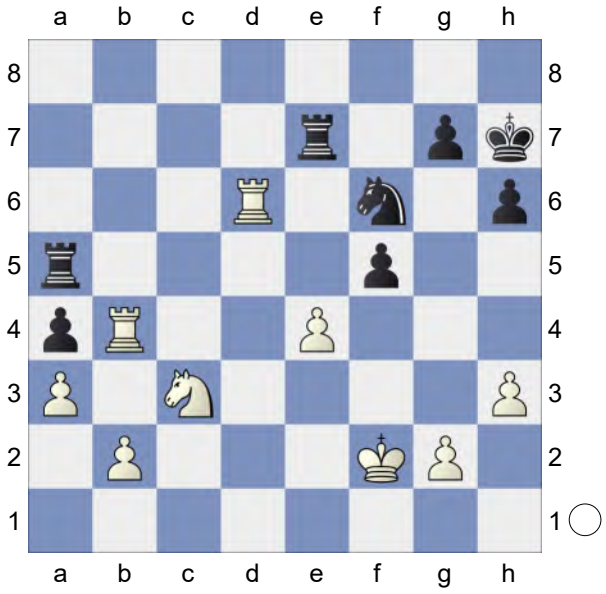
38...Rb7 1.24/26

[Black should try 38...Nxe4+± 0.48/19 39.Nxe4 fxe4]

39.Rb4!±

[39.Nxa4? perishes. Nxe4+ *(39...fxe4 40.Rd2±)* 40.Rxe4 fxe4-+]

39...Re7



40.Rdd4!↑ White is really pushing.

[40.Nxa4 Nxe4+ 41.Rxe4 Rxe4∓]

40...fxe4 41.Rxa4 e3+ 1.53/22

[⌓41...Rf5+ 1.16/22 42.Ke3 Rg5]

42.Ke2 Rae5

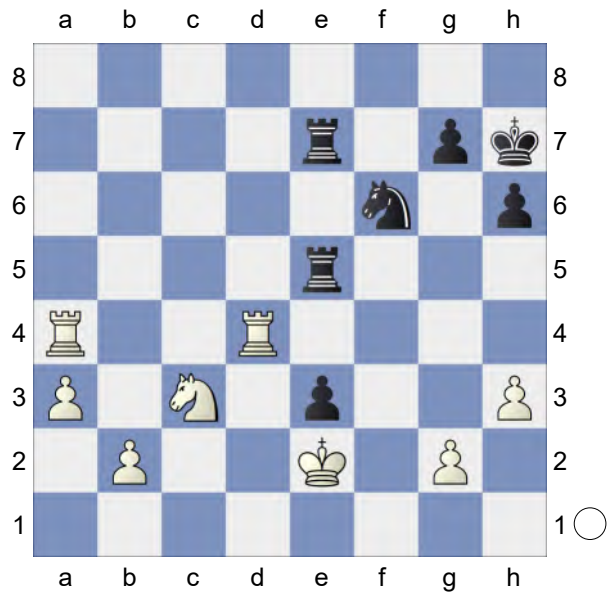
(Diagram)

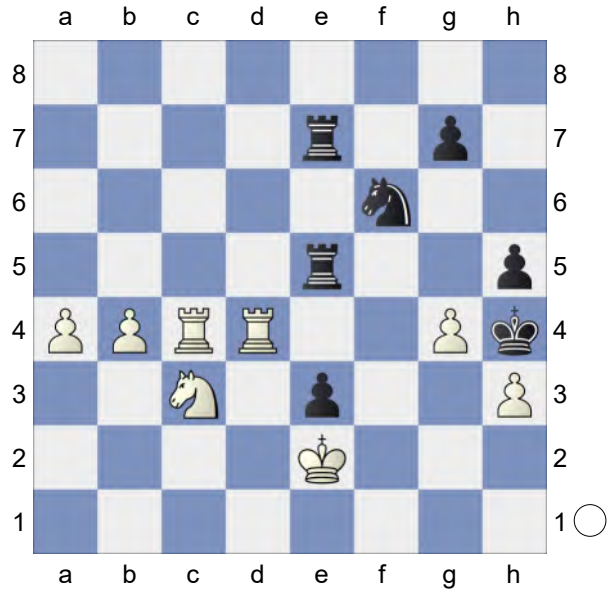
43.g4! Against Nh5 **43...h5 44.Rac4 Kg6 45.b4** aiming for a4. **45...Kg5** 2.86/17

[45...hxg4± 1.60/19 might work better. 46.hxg4 Re8]

46.a4+- Kh4

(Diagram)





47.g5+! Kxg5 48.a5 Rf5 49.Ne4+ Kg6 3.13/22
[⌓49...Kh6 2.12/19 50.Kxe3 Nd5+ 51.Kd3 g6 Remove Defender]
50.Kxe3 And now Kd2 would win.
50...Rf1? 3.59/18
[50...Nd5+ 1.95/16 51.Kd2 Nxb4 Remove Defender 52.Rxb4 Rxa5 53.Rb6+ Kf7]
51.Kd2 Rh1 52.Nxf6 gxf6 Endgame. KRR-KRR **53.Rd3**
[53.b5 Rh2+ 54.Kc3 Ra2+-]
53...Ra1 54.Kc2 Re2+ 55.Kb3 Raa2
56.Rf4 White is clearly winning.
56...Reb2+ 57.Kc4 Kg5 58.Rdf3
Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.44
1-0

D41
□ **Carlsen,M** **2831**
■ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**
CCT Final KO 2024 rapid (2.1) 21.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

D50: Queen's Gambit Declined: Dutch-Peruvian Gambit
Ruban,V: 'Inf 56/463' **1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 c5 5.cxd5 cxd4 6.Qxd4 exd5N**
[6...Nxd5 7.e4 Nxc3 8.Qxc3 Nc6
A) 9.a3 Bd7 10.Be2 Rc8 11.0-0 Na5 12.Qd3 Ba4 13.Qxd8+ Rxd8 14.Be3 Nb3 15.Bd1 b5 *(15...a6 16.Bxb3 Bxb3 17.Rac1 Bd6 18.Bb6 Ra8 19.Nd4 Ba4 20.Rc4 Bd7 21.Rd1 0-0 22.e5 Bb5 23.Nxb5 axb5 24.Re4 Be7 25.Rd7 Rfc8 26.g3 Bf8 27.Rxb7* Queen'S Gambit-5.cd5 cd4 6. ♕d4 ♘d5 Survey 2021 *)* 16.Bxb3 Bxb3 17.Rfc1 e5 18.Nxe5 a6 19.Nc6 1-0 Anand,V (2753)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2784) Nations Cup Online Prelim 2020 (5.1);
B) 9.Bb5 Bd7 10.0-0 Qb6 11.a4 Qc5 12.Qd3 *(12.Be3 Qxc3 13.bxc3 a6 14.Be2 Bd6 15.Rfb1 0-0-0 16.Rb2 Bc7 17.Bc5 Na5 18.Nd4 Nc6 19.Nc2 Be8 20.Rab1 Rd2 21.Kf1 Na5 22.Ke1 Rd8 23.Be7 Rd7 24.Bb4 Nc6 25.Bc5 Ba5 26.Nb4 Nd8* ½-½ (39) Rohde,M (2585)-Ruban,V (2580) 56/463 Tilburg 1992*)* 12...Qd6 13.Qe2

Be7 14.b3 Qc7 15.Bb2 0-0 16.Rac1 a6 17.Bxc6 Bxc6 18.Ne5 Bf6 19.Nxc6 Bxb2 20.Qxb2 bxc6 21.Rc4 1-0 (54) Rakhmatullin,K (2670)-Adocchio,G (2535) Roznov 87/102 2002]

7.Bg5 Be7 8.e3 0-0 9.Be2 h6 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 White has an edge. **11.Qd2 Be6 12.0-0 Qd7 13.Rfd1 Rd8 14.Nd4 Nc6 15.Nxe6 fxe6 16.Ne4 Qe7 17.Nxf6+ Qxf6 18.Rac1 Rac8 19.h3 a6 20.b4 Ne5 21.Qd4 Nd7 22.Bg4 Ne5 23.Be2 Nd7** Dodges Qb6 **24.Qd2 Ne5 25.b5 axb5** 0.40/22

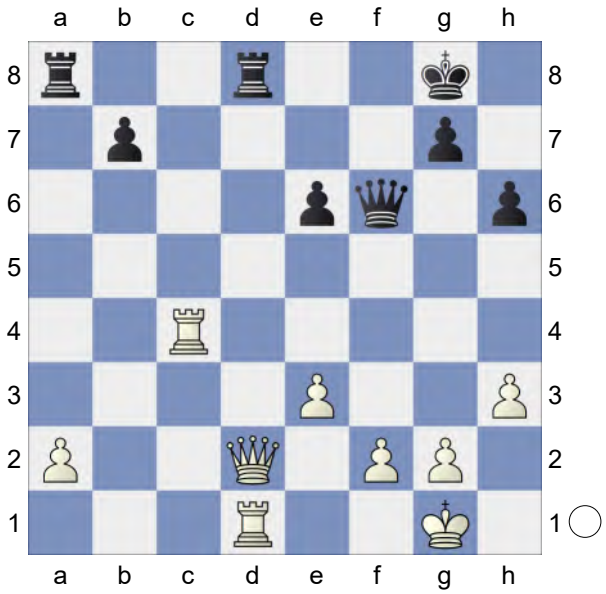
[25...Nc4= 0.00/23 should be considered. 26.Bxc4 dxc4 27.Rxc4 Qxf2+ 28.Qxf2 *(28.Kxf2 Rxd2+ 29.Rxd2 Rxc4=)* 28...Rxd1+ 29.Kh2 Rxc4]

26.Bxb5± Nc4 27.Bxc4 0.01/15

[27.Qb4± 0.54/20]

27...dxc4= 28.Rxc4 Ra8 1.71/23

[28...Qxf2+!= 0.01/24 and Black is okay. 29.Kxf2 *(29.Qxf2 Rxd1+ 30.Kh2 Rxc4=)* 29...Rxd2+ 30.Rxd2 Rxc4]



29.Ra4? 0.20/21 **Rxa4**

[Don't play 29...Rxd2?! 30.Rxa8+ Kh7 31.Rxd2+-]

[Not 29...Qxf2+? 30.Qxf2 *(30.Kxf2 Rxd2+ 31.Rxd2 Rxa4±)* 30...Rxd1+ 31.Kh2 Rxa4 32.Qc2+-]

30.Qxd8+ Qxd8 31.Rxd8+ Endgame. KR-KR **31...Kf7! 32.Rd7+ Kf6 33.Rxb7 Rxa2 34.Rb5 g5** 0.60/23

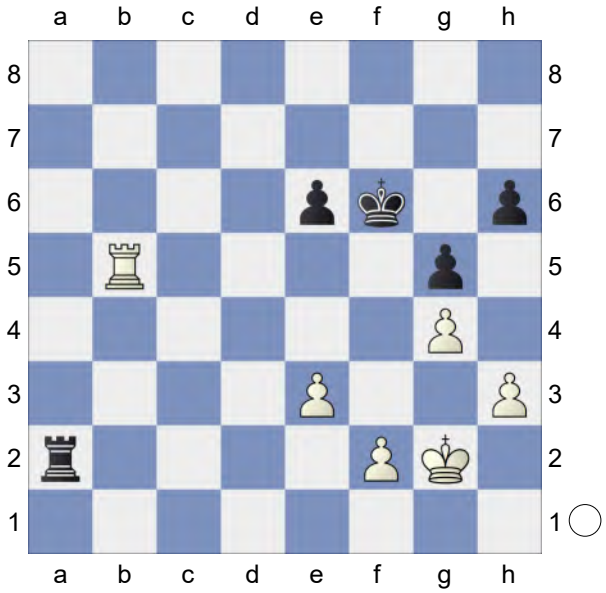
[34...Ra1+= 0.18/34 deserves consideration. 35.Kh2 Rf1]

35.g4 0.20/37

[35.Rb8± 0.60/23]

35...Ra1+ 36.Kg2 Ra2? 3.27/27

[36...Kg7= 0.20/28 and Black has nothing to worry.]



White now steadily converts the win.

37.h4!+- gxh4

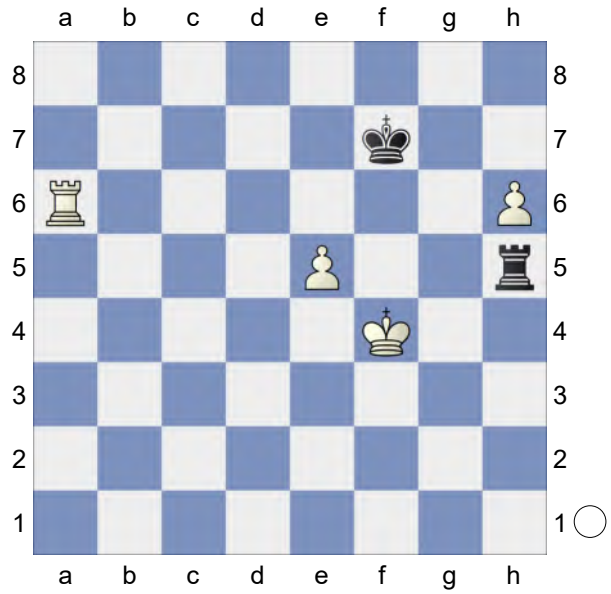
[37...Ra6 38.h5]

38.Rh5 Kg6 39.Rxh4 Ra4 5.77/27

[⌓39...Ra1 3.82/24 40.Rh5 Ra2]

40.Kg3 Rb4 41.Rh5 Ra4 42.Rb5 Kf6 43.f4 Ra6 44.Kf3 Rc6 45.Rh5 Kg6 46.Ke4 Rc3 47.Ra5 Kf6 48.Ra6 Rc4+ 49.Kf3 Kf7 50.f5 h5 51.fxe6+ Ke7 52.gxh5 Rh4 53.Ra5 Kxe6 54.e4 Rh3+ 55.Kg4 Re3 56.Kf4 Rh3 57.Ra6+ Ke7 58.h6 Kf7 59.e5

aiming for h7! **59...Rh5**

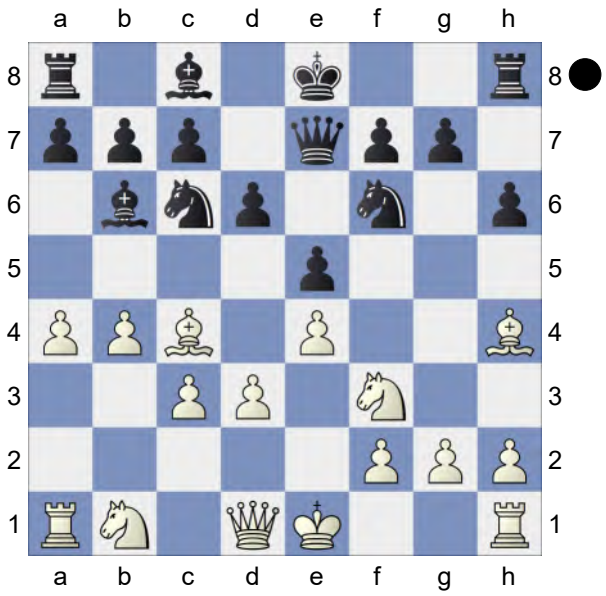


60.h7! Kg7 61.Ra7+ Kg6 62.e6 White threatens e7 and mate. **62...Kf6 63.e7 Rh4+ 64.Kf3 Rxh7 65.e8Q**
[Inferior is 65.e8R Rxa7 66.Kg4 Rd7=]
65...Rxa7 KQ-KR **66.Qc6+ Kg7 67.Kg4** 24.43/22
[⌓67.Qc3+ #46/26 Kg8 68.Kf4 Re7 69.Kf5 Kf7 70.Qc8 Kg7 71.Qc4 Rf7+ 72.Ke6]
67...Re7 68.Kf5 Kf8 69.Qd6 Ke8 70.Qc6+ 8.05/21
[⌓70.Qb8+ #45/26 Kd7 71.Qa7+ Ke8 72.Qa2 Rc7 73.Qe6+ Kd8 74.Qd6+ Kc8 75.Ke6]
70...Kf8 71.Qc4 Kg7 White mates. **72.Qb3 Rf7+ 73.Ke6 Rf6+ 74.Ke7 Rg6 75.Qc3+ Kg8 76.Qe5 Rh6 77.Qg5+ Kh7 78.Kf7**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.23 (precise) /Black=0.46
1-0

C53
□ **Nepomniachtchi,I 2755**
■ **Carlsen,M 2831**
CCT Final KO 2024 rapid (2.2) 21.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

C54: Giuoco Piano: 4 c3 Nf6, main lines with 5 d4 and 5 d3
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d3
[5.0-0 Qe7 6.d4 Bb6 7.Bg5 d6 8.a4 a6 9.Re1 h6 10.Bxf6 Qxf6 11.Na3 g5 12.Re2 Ne7 13.Bd3 Ng6 14.Nc4 Ba7 15.Bc2 Bg4 16.Re3 0-0-0 17.h3 h5 18.hxg4 hxg4 19.Nh2 Rh4 0-1 (62) Budzyn,M (2084)-Rafiee,M (2282) Walsrode Chessemy op-A 2023 (7)]
5...d6N
[5...0-0 6.Bg5 h6 7.Bh4 Be7 8.Nbd2 d6 9.0-0 Na5 10.Bb5 a6 11.Ba4 b5 12.Bc2 c5 13.d4 cxd4 14.cxd4 Nc6 15.h3 Bb7 16.Re1 Re8 17.a3 exd4 18.Nb3 d5 19.e5 Ne4 20.Bxe7 1-0 (45) Balogh,C (2628)-Kosten,A (2448) FRA-chT Top 12 2018 (3) Qxe7 21.Nfxd4 Qxe5 22.Nxc6 Bxc6 23.f3 Qxb2 24.Nd4 Nf6 25.Qd2 Rxe1+ 26.Rxe1 Qxa3 27.Nxc6 Qc5+ 28.Nd4 a5 29.Kh1 b4 30.Rc1 Qb6 31.Ba4 Nh5 32.g4 Nf6 33.Kg2 Rd8 34.Qe3 Qa7 35.Qe5 0-1 (45) Balogh,C (2448)-Ilincic,Z (2536) 86/236 Novi Sad 2003 Qb8 36.Qxb8 Rxb8 37.Rc5 Ra8 38.Nb3 Kf8 39.Rxa5 Rc8 40.Rc5 Ra8 41.Ra5 Rc8 42.Nd4 Rc4 43.Nf5 Rc8 44.Rb5 g6 45.Nd4 1-0 Rudolph,J (2628)-Kublis,A (2448) European Championship, Antalya 2004 (3)]
6.Bg5 h6 7.Bh4 Qe7 8.b4 Bxf6! is the strong threat. **8...Bb6 9.a4** -0.79/20

[9.0-0= -0.15/20 remains equal.]



9...a5!∓ 10.b5 Black is better. **10...Nd8 11.Nbd2 Ne6 12.0-0 Nf4 13.d4 Bg4 14.Qb3 0-0-0 15.Rfe1 g5** Black is more active. **16.Bg3 Bh5 17.Bf1 Kb8 18.Rad1 Rhe8 19.Nc4 Bxf3 20.gxf3 Qe6 21.Qc2 h5 22.Ne3** -2.41/22

[22.Kh1∓ -1.39/19]

22...exd4-+ 23.Nf5 -3.13/20

[23.cxd4 -2.01/16 was necessary. Nh3+ 24.Kg2]

23...dxc3 And now ...Qe5 would win. **24.Qxc3** -3.09/21

[⌓24.h4 -2.13/19 Qe5 25.Qc1]

24...Nd7 25.h4 Qe5 Dodges hxg5 **26.Qd2 f6 27.Kh2 Qc5** -1.51/19

[27...Qe6-+ -1.89/20 Threatens to win with ...Ne5. 28.Qc3 Qe5]

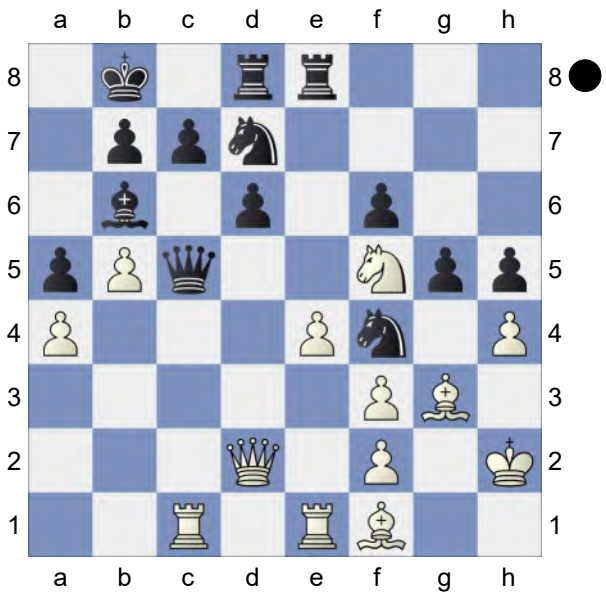
28.Rc1 -2.83/18

[28.Re3∓ -1.51/19]

(Diagram)

28...Ne5! A dynamic duo of knights. **29.Bg2 Qa3 30.Qd1** -4.18/20

[30.Bxf4 -2.62/19 might work better.



gxf4 31.Rc3 Qxa4 32.Rb1]

30...d5 31.exd5 Rxd5 32.Qc2 Red8 33.Rxe5 Rxe5 34.Ne3 Rxe3

[And not 34...Bxe3 35.Qxc7+ Ka7 36.Qxa5+ *(36.fxe3 Qd6+-; 36.Rc6 Rd6+-)* 36...Kb8 37.Qxd8+ Ka7 38.Rc8 Nxg2 39.Ra8#]

35.fxe3 Qxe3 (-> ...Rd2) **36.Re1 Qd4 37.hxg5** -8.97/18

[⌓37.Qe4 -4.55/17 Nxg2 38.Kxg2]

37...h4 38.Bxf4 Qxf4+ Black mates. **39.Kh1 h3** Decoy **40.Bxh3 Qg3** Black took control after the opening.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.73/ Black=0.25 (precise)

0-1

B22

□ **Carlsen,M** **2831**

■ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**

CCT Final KO 2024 rapid (2.3) 21.12.24

[Kitty Kat]

B22: Sicilian: 2 c3

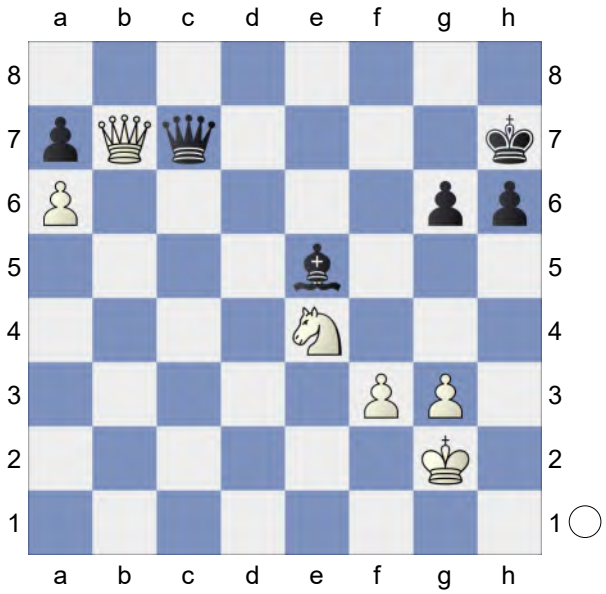
1.e4 c5 2.c3 Nf6 3.e5 Nd5 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.d4 cxd4 6.Bc4 Nb6 7.Bb3 g6 8.cxd4 Bg7 9.Nc3 0-0 10.0-0 0.02/20

[10.a4± 0.45/21 Na5 11.0-0]
10...d6=
[10...d5 11.h3 f6 12.exf6 exf6 13.Re1 Na5 14.Bc2 Nac4 15.a4 a5 16.b3 Nd6 17.Ba3 Rf7 18.Bc5 Bf5 19.Bxb6 Qxb6 20.Nxd5 Qc6 21.Bxf5 Nxf5 22.Ne3 Nxe3 23.Rxe3 Bh6 24.d5 Qc5 25.Rd3 ½-½ (58) Baklan,V (2590)-Grischuk,A (2666) WchT 5th Yerevan 2001 (9.3)]
11.exd6 Qxd6
[11...Bg4 12.dxe7 Qxe7 13.Be3 Rad8 14.Re1 Qd7 15.h3 Bxf3 16.Qxf3 Nxd4 17.Bxd4 Bxd4 18.Rad1 Qc7 19.Nb5 Qc5 20.Nxd4 Rxd4 21.Rxd4 Qxd4 22.Re7 Qg7 23.Qxb7 Nc8 24.Rxf7 1-0 Kosteniuk,A (2519)-Baskakov,E (2215) Titled Tuesday intern op 31st Jan Early blitz 2023 (11)]
12.d5N
[12.h3 Nxd4 13.Nxd4 Qxd4 14.Be3 Qxd1 15.Raxd1 Bf5 16.Bxb6 axb6 17.Nd5 Rae8 18.Nxb6 Bxb2 19.Nd7 Bxd7 20.Rxd7 b6 21.Rfd1 Ba3 22.Rb7 Bc5 23.Rd3 Rd8 24.Rdd7 Rxd7 25.Rxd7 Rc8 26.g3 Kf8 0-1 (94) Martinkus,R (1985)-Decuigniere,T (2361) Titled Tuesday intern op 06th Dec Early blitz 2022 (1)]
12...Na5 13.Re1 Nxb3 14.Qxb3 Bg4 15.Bg5 Rfe8
[15...Bxf3?! 16.Bxe7 Qf4 17.gxf3± *(17.Bxf8? Qg4 18.g3 Qh3 19.Bxg7 Qg2#)*]
16.Rad1 Bxf3 17.gxf3 Qd7 18.Ne4 h6 19.Be3 Qh3
[19...Nc8 simplifies 20.Bf4 Nd6 21.Nxd6 exd6 22.Kg2 g5]
20.Bf4 Nd7
[20...Qf5 simplifies 21.Bg3 Rad8 22.d6 exd6 23.Nxd6 Rxe1+ 24.Rxe1 Qd7]
21.d6
[21.Qxb7 Qxf3 22.Qxd7 Qxf4]
21...Ne5 0.80/23
[21...e5= -0.02/23 22.Bg3 b6]
22.Bg3 -0.13/23 White is more active.
[22.Re3!± 0.80/23]
22...Rad8 23.f4 Nc6 aiming for ...Nd4.
24.Qxb7 -1.04/20
[24.Qd5= -0.18/22]
24...Nd4∓ 25.Kh1 -1.92/23
[25.Rxd4∓ -0.82/22 Bxd4 26.Rd1]
25...exd6-+ Hoping for ...d5. **26.Qd5 Nf5 27.b4 Re6 28.Nc5?** -3.79/21
[28.Kg1 -1.94/23 is the only way for White.]
28...Rxe1+
[28...dxc5 29.Qxd8+ Bf8 30.bxc5+-]
29.Rxe1 Kh7 -2.21/27
[29...dxc5 30.Qxd8+ Kh7 31.bxc5±]
[⌓29...Rc8 -3.86/24 30.Ne4 Rc2]
30.Ne4 Re8 31.Kg1
[31.Qxf7 Rxe4 32.Rd1 Nxg3+ *(32...Rxb4? 33.Kg1-+; 32...Qg4? 33.Qb3-+)* 33.fxg3 Re2 *(33...Rxb4? 34.f5-+; 33...Rxb4? 34.Qb3-+)*]
[31.Nf6+? Bxf6 32.Qxf7+ Ng7-+]
31...Re6 Prevents Nf6+. Threatens to win with ...Qh5. **32.Rd1 Qh5?** -0.03/26
[32...Nh4!-+ -2.35/22 33.Nd2 Rf6]
33.Rd2? -1.75/24
[33.f3!= -0.03/26]
33...Qg4 -1.18/21
[33...Qf3? 34.Nf6+ *(34.Ng5+ hxg5 35.Qxf3 gxf4+-)* 34...Bxf6 35.Qxf3+-]
[33...Qh3!-+ -1.75/24 And now ...Ne7 would win. 34.Rd1 Nh4]
34.f3∓ Qh3
[34...Qxf3? 35.Nf6+ *(35.Ng5+ hxg5 36.Qxf3 g4+-)* 35...Bxf6 36.Qxf3+-]
35.Bf2 Repels Ne3 **35...Ne7** -0.11/25
[35...Qxf3? is the wrong capture. 36.Nf6+ *(36.Ng5+ hxg5 37.Qxf3*

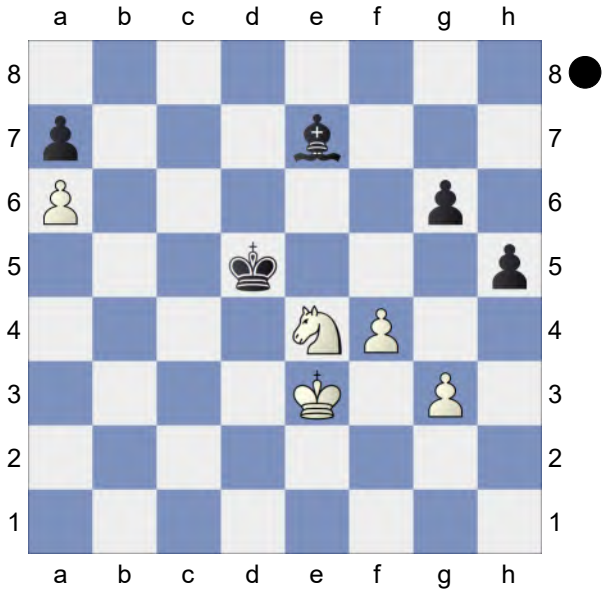
gxf4+-) 36...Rxf6 37.Qxf3+-]
[35...g5!∓ -1.14/21 36.fxg5 Be5 *(36...Qxf3? 37.Nf6+* Discovered Attack *Rxf6 38.Qxf3+-)* 37.Bxa7 Nh4 *(37...Qxf3? 38.Nf6+* Discovered Attack *Rxf6 39.Qxf3+-)*]
36.Qd3 Qf5 37.Nxd6 Qxf4 38.Bg3 -0.97/22
[38.b5= 0.00/23]
38...Qxb4 39.Nxf7? -3.97/21
[39.a3∓ -0.95/20 Qc5+ 40.Kg2]
39...Nf5-+ 40.Kg2 Qe7 -0.60/20
[40...Re3-+ -3.55/16 41.Qd8 Re7 42.Nxh6 Kxh6 *(42...Bxh6? 43.Rd7-+)*]
41.Nd6∓ Re3! 42.Qc4 -1.01/19
[Better is 42.Qb5!∓ -0.31/20 Nd4 43.Qb7]
42...Nxg3 0.00/26
[42...Rxf3!∓ -1.01/19 43.Kxf3 Qe3+ 44.Kg4 Qg5+ *(44...Qxd2 45.Nxf5 Qg5+ 46.Kf3∓)* 45.Kh3 Qxd2 46.Nxf5 gxf5]
43.hxg3= Rc3 44.Qe4 Qd7 45.Qe2 Rc6□ Black puts up resistance **46.Ne4 Qe7 47.Qb5 Rc7 48.Qd5 Rb7 49.a4 Rb2 50.Rxb2 Bxb2** Endgame. KQB-KQN **51.a5 Bg7 52.a6 Qc7 53.Qb7 Be5** 2.94/19
[Black should try 53...Qc2+± 0.60/23 54.Kh3 h5]

(Diagram)

54.Nf6+? 0.13/20 **Kh8! 55.Qa8+ Qb8 56.Qxb8+ Bxb8** KB-KN **57.f4 Kg7 58.Nd5 Kf7 59.Kf3 Ke6 60.Ke4 Bd6 61.Nc3 Bc5 62.Nb5 h5 63.Nc3 Bf2 64.Kf3 Bd4 65.Ne4 Kd5 66.Ng5 Bf6** White must now prevent ...Bxg5. **67.Ne4 Be7 68.Ke3?** -2.37/23
[68.Nd2= -0.01/25 and White is

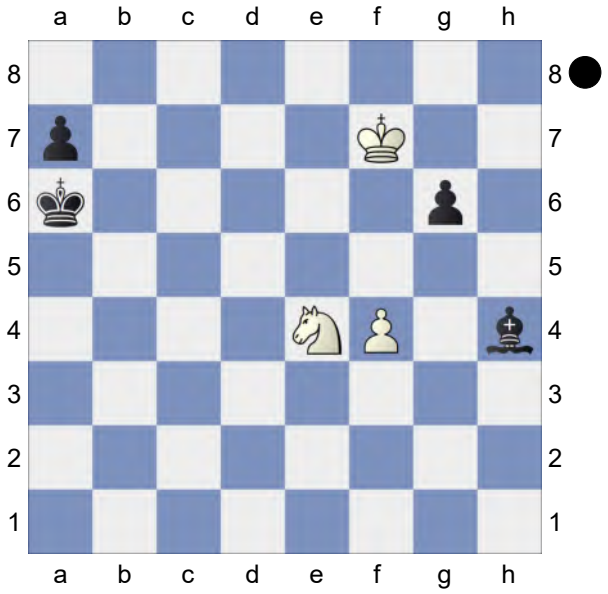


okay.]



68...Kc6 -0.88/19
[68...Kc4!-+ -2.37/23 is more deadly. Strongly threatening ...Kb5. 69.Nd2+ Kb5]
69.Kd4? -4.93/26
[69.Nc3∓ -0.88/19 is a better chance.]
69...Kb6-+ 70.Ke5 h4? 0.00/36
[70...Kxa6-+ -2.61/26 71.Nf2 Kb5]
71.gxh4= Bxh4 72.Ke6 Kxa6 ...Kb5 would now be deadly. **73.Kf7**

-1.14/31
[73.f5!= -0.03/24 keeps the balance. gxf5 74.Kxf5]



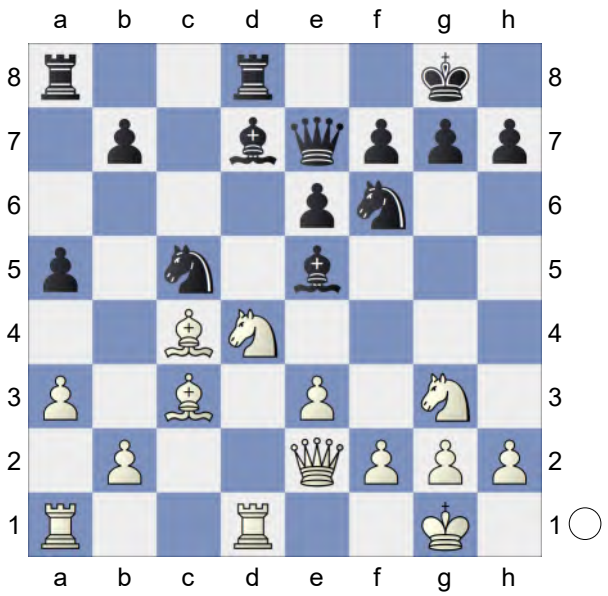
73...Kb5!∓ 74.Kxg6 a5 75.f5 Bd8 0.00/33
[75...Kc4∓ -0.71/27 ...a4 is the strong threat. 76.Nd2+ Kc3 77.Ne4+ Kd3 78.Nc5+ Kc4]
76.f6= The position is equal. **76...Bxf6 77.Kxf6** KN-KP **77...Kb4 78.Nd2 Kc3 79.Nb1+ Kc2 80.Na3+ Kb3 81.Nb1 Kb2**
[81...Kc2!? 82.Na3+□ Kb3=]
82.Nd2 a4 83.Ke5 Kc3
[83...a3!? 84.Nc4+□ Kc3 85.Nxa3=]
84.Kd5 Kxd2
[84...a3!? 85.Nb1+□ Kd3 86.Nxa3=]
85.Kc4 Ke1
[85...a3!? 86.Kb3□ Ke3=]
86.Kb4 Kf1 87.Kxa4
Weighted Error Value: White=0.41/ Black=0.35
½-½

E42
□ **Nepomniachtchi,I 2755**
■ **Carlsen,M 2831**
CCT Final KO 2024 rapid (2.4) 21.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

E42: Nimzo-Indian: Rubinstein: 4...c5 5 Ne2
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 c5 5.Nge2 d5 6.a3 Ba5 7.dxc5 Hoping for b4. **7...dxc4 8.Bd2 Nbd7 9.Ng3**
[9.Nd4 e5 10.Nf3 Nxc5 11.Bxc4 Bc7 12.Qc2 0-0 13.b4 Ncd7 14.0-0 Nb6 15.Be2 a6 16.e4 h6 17.Rfd1 Qe7 18.Be3 Qe6 19.Rac1 Bd7 20.Nd5 Nbxd5 21.exd5 Nxd5 22.Rxd5 Qxd5 23.Qxc7 Rac8 1-0 (77) Venkatesh,N (2148)-Kozower,E (2021) New York Marshall CC op-B 2024 (3)]
9...Nxc5 ...b5! is the strong threat. White is slightly better.
[9...b6 10.Qf3 Rb8 11.c6 Ne5 12.Qf4 Bxc3 13.Bxc3 Nxc6 14.Rd1 Qe7 15.Bxc4 b5 16.Bxf6 Qxf6 17.Qd6 e5 18.Bxf7+ Kxf7 19.Qc7+ Qe7 20.Qxc6 Bb7 21.Qxb5 Bxg2 22.Qc4+ Kf8 23.Nf5 Qf6 24.Qc5+ 1-0 (27) Caruana,F (2795)-So,W (2752) 10th Sinquefield Cup 2023 (7.1)]
10.Bxc4 Black must now prevent b4.
10...Bc7N 11.0-0 0-0 12.Qe2 Bd7 13.Rfd1 Qe7 14.Nb5 Be5 15.Bb4 a6 16.Nd4 a5 17.Bc3 Rfd8

(Diagram)

18.Nc6! Discovered Attack **18...Bxc6 19.Bxe5 Ba4 20.Rxd8+ Rxd8 21.h3 h6 22.Rc1 Bc6 23.Bb5 Bxb5 24.Qxb5 Nd3 25.Rc7** 0.05/17



[25.Bxf6!± 0.51/25 Qxf6 26.Rc2]

25...Qe8!= 26.Rxb7

[Much weaker is 26.Qxa5 b6 27.Qc3 *(27.Qxb6? Nd5-+)* 27...Nd5 28.Qxd3 Nxc7∓]

26...Qxb5 Remove Defender **27.Rxb5 Nxe5 28.Rxe5** Endgame. KRN-KRN **28...Rd1+ 29.Nf1 a4 30.g4**

[30.Ra5 Ne4 31.f3 *(31.Rxa4?* perishes. *Nd2-+)* 31...Nd2∓]

30...Nd5 31.Re4 Rb1 32.Rxa4 Threatens to win with Ra8+. **32...Rxb2 33.Ng3 Nc3** Prevents Ne4 **34.Rc4 Ne2+** 0.71/28

[34...Nd1= 0.15/22]

35.Kg2 0.21/21

[35.Nxe2± 0.71/28 Rxe2 36.h4]

35...Nxg3 36.Kxg3 KR-KR **36...Ra2 37.Rc8+ Kh7 38.Ra8 g5 39.a4 Kg7 40.a5 Ra4 41.a6 Ra2** 0.65/26

[41...Ra3= 0.28/27]

42.a7 0.21/34

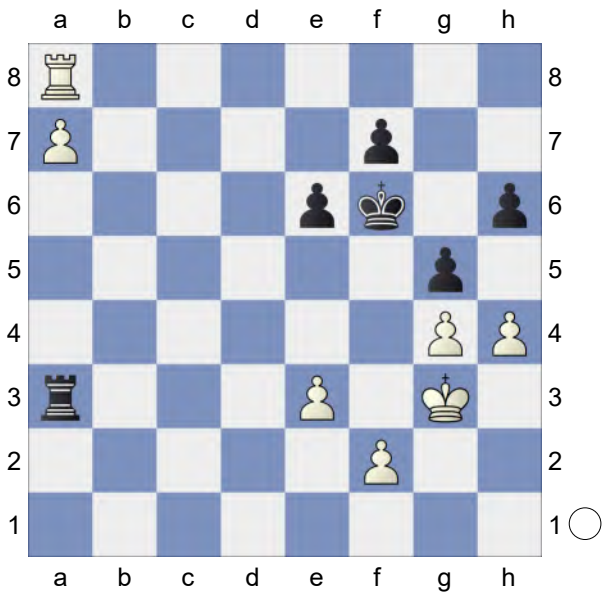
[42.Kf3± 0.65/26 might be stronger.]

42...Kf6 0.98/31

[42...Ra3= 0.21/34 keeps the balance.]

43.h4 Strongly threatening f4. **43...Ra3**

(Diagram)



44.Kg2 0.18/35

[44.h5!± 0.95/33]

44...Kg7 0.99/33

[44...gxh4= 0.18/35 remains equal. 45.Kh3 Ke5 46.Kxh4 Ra1]

45.f4 0.00/35

[45.h5± 0.99/33]

45...gxh4 The position is equal. **46.e4 e5 47.fxe5 Rg3+ 48.Kh1**

[48.Kh2!? Ra3□ 49.Kg2±]

48...Rh3+ 49.Kg2 Rg3+ 50.Kh2 Ra3! 51.Kg2 Rg3+ 52.Kh2

Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.11 (very precise)

[52.Kf2!? Ra3□ 53.Kg2=]

½-½

C11

□ **Carlsen,M** **2831**

■ **Nepomniachtchi,I** **2755**

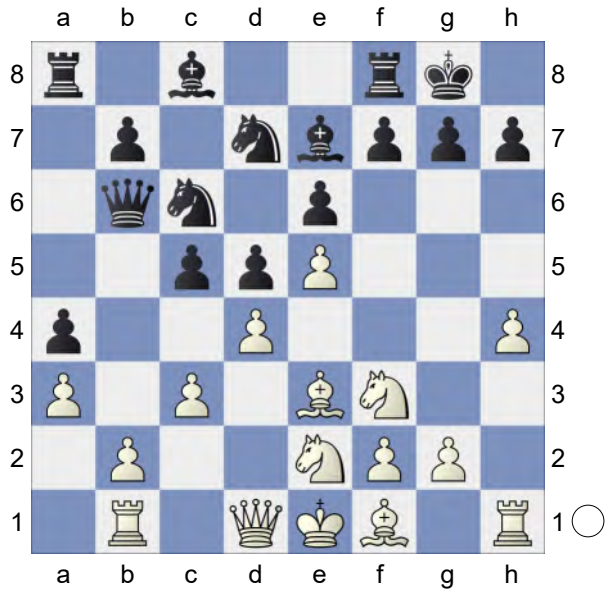
CCT Final KO 2024 rapid (2.5) 21.12.24

[Kitty Kat]

C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4

1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nce2 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.a3 a5

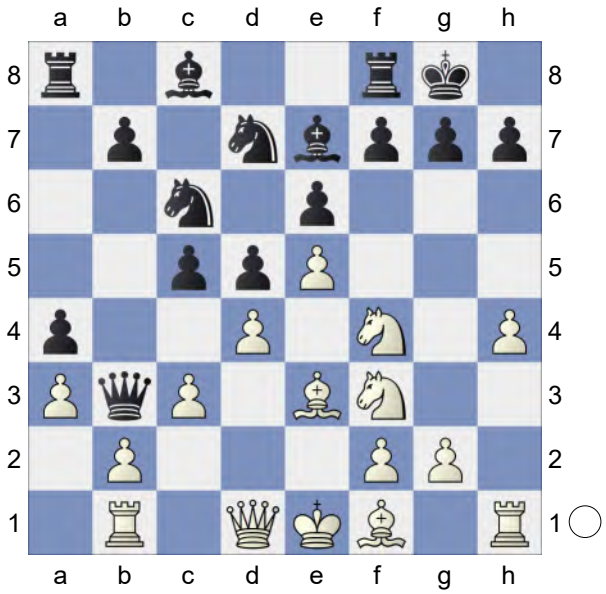
8.Nf3 a4
[8...b6 9.Nf4 Ba6 10.h4 Bxf1 11.Kxf1 h6 12.Qc2 Qc7 13.Rh3 c4 14.a4 Qb7 15.b3 b5 16.bxc4 bxc4 17.Rb1 Qc7 18.Nxe6 fxe6 19.Qg6+ Kd8 20.Qxe6 Ne7 21.Ba3 Ke8 22.Bxe7 Bxe7 23.Qxd5 1-0 (35) 2. Najdorf 6.Rg1 b5 (2427)-Ueckert,H (2445) Kecskemet 1990 (7.4)]
9.h4N
[9.Nf4 Qa5 10.Bd2 Qb6 11.c4 Nxd4 12.cxd5 Qxb2 13.Nxd4 Qxd4 14.dxe6 fxe6 15.Bb5 Qxe5+ 16.Be3 Ra5 17.Rb1 c4 18.Bxc4 Qc3+ 19.Qd2 Qxd2+ 20.Kxd2 Bxa3 12) Steinitz-Variante-12 | Steinitz ohne f2-f4 | Al]
9...Qa5 The position is equal. **10.Bd2 Qb6 11.Rb1 Be7 12.Be3 0-0** 0.97/20
[12...Qa5= 0.00/18]



13.Nf4!± Qb3

(Diagram)

14.Qc1! cxd4 15.cxd4 Na5 16.Bd3 h6 2.46/19 Repels Ng5
[16...Rd8± 1.53/18 was called for.



17.0-0 Nf8]
17.Rh3+- Nc4 18.Bc2
[18.Nd2 Nxd2 19.Qxd2 f6]
18...Qb5 19.Nh5 Nxe3 5.26/20
[19...b6 2.22/16 is tougher. 20.Bxh6 Ba6 21.Bxg7 *(21.Nxg7* gets mated. *Nxa3)* 21...Nd2 Decoy]
20.Qxe3 White is clearly winning. **20...f5 21.Rg3 Rf7 22.Qxh6 Bf8 23.Qg6**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) /Black=0.47
1-0